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REPORT

AS TO THE

PRACTICE OF MEDICINE AND SURGERY BY UNQUALIFIED PERSONS

IN THE

UNITED KINGDOM.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.

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In November, 1907, the General Medical Council having had their attention called to the evils that attend the unqualified practice of medicine, appointed a Committee to ascertain what legal provision existed in the Colonies and Dependencies of the Empire and in Foreign Countries for the prevention of medical practice by other than legally qualified persons.

The result, which was largely promoted by the help given at the request of the Lord President of the Council, by the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, the Secretary of State for the Colonies, and the Secretary of State for India, served in the opinion of the General Medical Council to show that in many countries the laws for this purpose were much stronger than those of the United Kingdom, and in November, 1908, the Council proceeded to pass the following Resolution :—

> "That the General Medical Council, being of opinion that the present Medical Acts do not sufficiently enable 'persons requiring medical aid' 'to distinguish qualified from unqualified practitioners,' and that it is contrary to the interest of the public that medical and surgical practice should be carried on with impunity by persons holding no recognised qualifications, requests the Government to take steps for the appointment of a Royal Commission to inquire into the evil effects produced by the unrestricted practice of medicine and surgery by unqualified persons."

Upon the receipt of this Resolution the Lord President of the Council deemed it expedient in the first instance to have recourse to ordinary means of information, and caused letters to be addressed to the Local Government Board, the Scottish Office and the Irish Government, enclosing copies of the Resolution and asking that a circular might be issued to the Medical Officers of Health in each country inviting their opinion as to whether the practice of medicine and surgery by unqualified persons is assuming larger proportions, and as to the effect produced by such practice on the public health.

The opinions thus obtained are collected in the present volume; and to the summarised results supplied by the Local Government Boards of England, Scotland and Ireland respectively there is prefixed in each case a Memorandum prepared in those Departments giving a general survey of the field covered by the enquiry.

ALMERIC FITZROY.

Privy Council Office,
November, 1910.

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PRACTICE OF MEDICINE AND SURGERY BY UNQUALIFIED PERSONS IN ENGLAND AND WALES.

In 1909 the Local Government Board were requested by the Lord President of the Council to ascertain from Medical Officers of Health in England and Wales whether the practice of medicine and surgery by unqualified persons is assuming larger proportions in their districts and what effects are produced by such practice on the health of their districts. The Board addressed a circular letter making these enquiries to all Medical Officers of Health.

Replies were received from over 1,600 officers; some of them men who give their whole time to public duties, others engaged also in general practice.

In many cases these officers had been at considerable pains to obtain as full information as possible, and had written to all the general practitioners in the district, or had called in the aid of the local division of the British Medical Association or of the local Medical Society. The replies may therefore be taken to represent the opinion not only of Medical Officers of Health, but also of a large number of general practitioners throughout the country.

A summary has been made from these replies which is divided into sections corresponding to the various kinds of unqualified practice found to exist, and a few specimens of advertisements forwarded by Medical Officers of Health to illustrate their replies are appended to it.

The information given by the Medical Officers of Health of towns with a population at the Census of 1901 of over 20,000 is printed in an Appendix which appears on page 29. The second column of this Appendix gives particulars of the unregistered practice which the Medical Officer of Health has found to exist, and of the evidence he has collected as to its increase or otherwise, while the third column gives his opinion of the effect of that practice on health. The Circular asked for information as to the effect on public health, but in many cases the injury observed can only be said to have affected the health of the individual.

It is difficult to say, categorically, whether the practice of medicine and surgery by unqualified persons is increasing. In some districts the evidence is distinctly in this direction, while in others there seems to be very little of such practice.

Taking the 217 towns in the Appendix, it appears that in 82 unqualified practice in one form or another is stated either to be increasing or to be large in amount; in 75 such practice is stated to exist to some extent; in 27 there is reported to be very little;

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while in only 30 towns is it stated that unqualified practice is entirely non-existent. In regard to the three remaining towns no information is forthcoming.

As regards London, the amount of unqualified practice does not appear to be so great as in provincial towns. In two metropolitan boroughs only is it stated to be increasing; in five there is a large amount; in 11 the practice exists to some extent; while the practice is non-existent or very small in seven. As regards four metropolitan boroughs the extent of the practice is not stated.

There is some evidence which appears to point to the conclusion that unqualified practice increases in large centres of population, attracting dwellers in the smaller urban and the rural districts. This is assisted by the ready means of access to the towns which now exist, by the extensive advertising in newspapers and magazines which brings quackery of all kinds under the direct notice of all classes; and by the facilities, extensively used, of obtaining advice and medicine through the post.

Whether unqualified practitioners to-day represent themselves as being registered, or assume titles which would lead the public to believe that they are regular medical men, is a question which Medical Officers of Health have answered in different ways. While the educated classes, as a rule, are not deceived in this respect, it is probable that a large number of people among the more ignorant sections of the community *are* deceived into the belief that the person they consult is, in some way or other, qualified to give medical or surgical advice. The fact that many societies accept the certificates of unqualified persons, doubtless assists this belief, which is further strengthened by the practice of some Registrars of Deaths in accepting certificates of death granted by unqualified persons without further inquiry, and entering them up as uncertified deaths. This practice is adversely commented on by several Medical Officers of Health.

It is perhaps hardly necessary to state that the Local Government Board accept no responsibility for the views expressed by the Medical Officers of Health or for the recommendations which have been made.

SUMMARY OF REPLIES FROM MEDICAL OFFICERS OF HEALTH.

CHEMISTS.

(a) *Extent of Practice.*

Prescribing by chemists is stated to be so common as to be practically universal throughout the country. In the replies received, qualified and unqualified chemists are not always distinguished, but it would seem that the latter prescribe more recklessly than the former, as they obtain no support whatever from medical men.

While in the main they confine their attention to the so-called minor ailments, and advise patients to consult a doctor in the more difficult cases, the evidence shows that a large amount of prescribing in what eventually proves to be disease of a graver character also takes place. This must inevitably be so, as the earlier symptoms of serious disease are very apt to be of an unalarming character. In some places their practice is stated to be so large as to exceed that done by general medical practitioners. They are resorted to especially by the poor, who, either from poverty, or through lapse of subscriptions to a medical club, or because they consider their ailment unimportant, are unwilling to visit a doctor, and it is common for mothers of the poorer classes to take their babies to the chemist, or in some cases to ask him to prescribe even in their absence. In such cases the treatment appears to be more or less superficial, and the chemist commonly recommends proprietary infant foods, soothing syrups or teething powders. It is comparatively rarely that a general practitioner sees the child of working-class people until it has been purged and medicined for several days by the prescribing chemist. Skin diseases in children, *e.g.*, ringworm, are also largely treated by them.

They are known to treat in many instances all kinds of eye diseases, and to prescribe spectacles, a branch of work that has increased since the inspection of school children was made compulsory. Hypermetropia is sometimes treated with myopic lenses and astigmatism is treated badly. They are known to prescribe atropine and lead lotion in eye diseases.

The treatment of venereal diseases is undertaken by many, and in some cases it is suggested that drugs are obtained from them for the purpose of procuring abortion.

It is through chemists, in a great degree, that the sale of proprietary medicines has become so widespread, and the habit of self-drugging so prevalent.

Many chemists act as unqualified dentists.

In Wales, and in the West Riding of Yorkshire to a less extent, a special class of work is undertaken by chemists under the name of "Water Casters" or "Water Doctors." It is described as follows: "By diligently touting and advertising himself, a chemist obtains a certain reputation as a 'water doctor.' The Welsh people have a great belief in this form of treatment, and a chemist, once having

obtained a reputation as such, can do an immense practice, people for miles round sending him specimens of urine, from which he professes to diagnose their ailments, keeping them under treatment until they are forced to send for medical advice. Patients often suffer greatly by reason of this practice, medical treatment being advised only when the case becomes serious."

(b) *Effects on the Public Health.*

Some Medical Officers of Health complain that chemists do not know, or only imperfectly know the diseases they treat, and that consequently their prescribing is for the most part superficial and directed only to the symptoms. Instances are reported of cases which have been referred to doctors, only in time for them to give a certificate of death.

Infectious diseases, such as measles, scarlet fever, whooping cough, diphtheria and smallpox, are stated to be frequently overlooked by chemists, and some Medical Officers of Health attribute outbreaks of infectious diseases to this cause.

Children's skin diseases are wrongly treated, and this sometimes necessitates a prolonged absence from school.

The treatment of infants' diseases by chemists is regarded as having some bearing on infant mortality. They are reported to treat infants very largely during the diarrhœal season.

Phthisis and cancer in the early stages are sometimes, through improper treatment, aggravated, and in many cases become too advanced for effectual medical or surgical treatment afterwards.

HERBALISTS.

(a) *Extent of Practice.*

Herbalists may be roughly divided into two classes.

(1) One class is itinerant, partaking largely of the nature of the ordinary itinerant quack, who sells his remedies in markets, or hawks them from door to door. It is difficult to estimate the extent of the practice of these people, but it is known to prevail largely in the country districts.

(2) The second class (male and female herbalists) is established in shops in urban areas, and is very prevalent in the large manufacturing centres. The practice of herbalists, while it is scattered more or less over the whole country, is especially noticeable in Lancashire, the West Riding of Yorkshire, Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire—particularly in the populous boroughs of these counties, where their numbers show a marked increase—and to a somewhat less extent in Wales. In one city they are stated to number between 40 and 50, and to have more than doubled during the last 25 years.

Herbalists advertise extensively in the press. In one large town in Yorkshire their signs are said to exist in most of the streets, and also in the Corporation Tramcars.

They have, for many years, been organised into an association known as the "British Medical Herbalists' Association," and a quarterly periodical is devoted to their interests.

The trade of herbalist appears from the particulars given by some Medical Officers of Health to be a lucrative one. In some parts the unqualified practitioner (*e.g.*, herbalist) is stated to have a higher reputation than qualified men. The scope of their activities is very wide, and they treat practically all diseases, in many cases visiting their patients at their homes. A large number sell drugs for the purpose of procuring abortion, often at exorbitant prices.

They are largely resorted to for the treatment of venereal diseases. Some of them specialise in skin and other diseases. They treat malignant diseases by means of caustics, and by herbal remedies. Many do a large trade through the post, and by means of advertisement. Many of them give certificates, which in some cases are stated to be accepted by Registrars of Deaths.

Some herbalists, in their advertisements, warn the public against quacks. They are sometimes called "Doctor," and some call themselves "Medical Herbalists" and add the words "by examination." Certain of them are stated to vaunt spurious degrees, and it would seem possible that some persons are occasionally led to believe that herbalists are qualified practitioners.

(b) *Effects on Public Health.*

As in other forms of unqualified practice, the effects are often indirect. Attendance on a herbalist causes a waste of time which should have been spent in seeking skilled advice, particularly in malignant and wasting diseases.

Cough mixtures are prescribed indiscriminately for respiratory diseases, which may really be tuberculosis or chronic phthisis, and the delay entailed by such treatment seriously diminishes the chances of cure.

As regards malignant diseases, one Medical Officer of Health states that he has met with many such cases which have been treated by caustics. After unavailing treatment by herbalists the patients have been sent by them to hospital, where the disease has been found to be in too advanced a stage for operating. "The treatment of tumours" (by herbalists) "cancers, &c., leads to a great amount of unnecessary pain and suffering and premature death."

In venereal diseases, treatment by herbalists is said, in some cases, to render an early cure less hopeful and complications more common.

Herbalists may be concerned in the spread of epidemics of infectious diseases. During a smallpox epidemic, an ointment was extensively sold which, it was claimed, would cure smallpox. The vendor was prosecuted for spreading the disease by this means. Wrong diagnosis and consequent mistaken treatment are also responsible for spreading infectious disease. In one case smallpox was spread through treatment as chicken pox.

One Medical Officer of Health reports that a herbalist had been sending medicine to a child in the district, who not until after three weeks of such treatment was discovered to be suffering from scarlet fever.

Some herbalists safeguard themselves by giving an indefinite certificate, *e.g.*, "The case is of a diphtheritic—or typhoid, &c.—nature."

Herbalists in some cases are found giving certificates excusing school attendance.

BONESETTERS.

(a) *Extent of Practice.*

Numerous complaints have been received of the encroachments by bonesetters upon the surgical practice of qualified practitioners. Their practice is to a large extent in districts devoted to mining industries, especially in the North of England. They have a very great vogue in Cumberland, Northumberland and Durham, and do a large amount of work in Lancashire. Many also practise in the Welsh mining districts ; and references to them are also made by Medical Officers of Health in all parts of the country.

In one large town in the North of England they are stated to have increased at least 40 per cent. during the last ten years.

The increase in their practice is attributed in some cases to the Employers' Liability Act. One Medical Officer of Health is of opinion, however, that they are diminishing as a class, owing to the increased knowledge of ambulance work, and the treatment of most accident cases at the Infirmary.

Many of them do not confine their practice to one district, but travel from district to district, advertising their visits. Some are reported to have acquired a big reputation in this class of work, and to be resorted to from all quarters.

The men who set up as bonesetters are drawn largely from the working class population, such as carriers, railway porters, and the like, and in many cases they are illiterate and uneducated. Some have learnt what knowledge they possess from ambulance associations.

Bonesetters in some districts enjoy a large amount of public confidence. Some friendly societies are said to accept certificates given by them. The Northumberland and Durham Miners' Permanent Relief Fund, a very large Friendly Society, of which practically every coal miner in the two Counties is a member, has recently decided to accept certificates from bonesetters in cases of accident as equivalent to certificates of medical practitioners.

In Wales, belief in these men is said to be implicit. There is a strongly-rooted idea that bonesetting is a thing apart from a medical man's functions, and it is not uncommon for a medical man to be asked to attend a patient who is under a bone-setter's treatment.

Opinions differ on the question as to whether the public are led to believe that bonesetters are qualified by law to practise in surgery, but the majority of Medical Officers of Health who refer to this subject allege that this belief is common, more especially among the ignorant sections of the public.

(b) *Effects on Public Health.*

The effects of the practice of bonesetters are to be seen in individual cases, and bear only indirectly on the public health. Those bonesetters who undertake minor surgical cases only, do a relatively small amount of harm, though instances of disastrous results are reported. Much work is done in injuries arising out of football matches, where their treatment is said sometimes to be beneficial. But the greater number of bonesetters undertake more complicated cases, and irretrievable harm is sometimes caused. Dislocations are treated without being reduced, and permanent disablement sometimes results.

Cases are reported in which their violent manipulations have occasioned real injury, when the injury professed to be treated has actually been supposititious.

Bonesetters appear sometimes to undertake the cure of cancer cases, with disastrous results. Bad effects are also reported from their treatment of cases of tubercular bone disease, particularly in its incipient stages. Their lack of knowledge prevents them from distinguishing this from an ordinary dislocation, and a large number of Medical Officers of Health refer to the disastrous results to individuals in such cases.

DENTISTS.

(a) *Extent of Practice.*

In a very large number of districts,—in fact, in most places where it is referred to at all, the practice of dental surgery by unqualified persons is reported to be assuming larger proportions. It exists in several forms :—

(1) There is the *chemist*, qualified or unqualified, who undertakes this class of work, and whose dental practice is sometimes very large.

(2) *Dental Companies, Hygienic and other Institutes* do a large amount of dental surgery, largely through agents. They canvass from house to house, and charge fees as high as qualified dentists. Many unqualified dental firms make periodical tours of the towns, advertising the particulars of their visit in the local press beforehand, and hiring a consulting room, *e.g.*, at a hotel, for the occasion.

(3) *Unqualified dentists*, often advertising "*American Dentistry*," settle in a district, and occasionally build up a large practice. They sometimes visit patients at their own homes and administer local anæsthetics.

(4) *Itinerant quacks*, who take up their positions in markets on market days, do a considerable trade in extracting teeth, simply for the purpose of drawing a large crowd together, in order to sell their quack medicines, pills, &c.

The public are to a large extent misled as to the qualifications of unqualified dentists. While their cards are carefully drawn up, so that they do not call themselves dentists in so many words, the signs 'Teeth,' 'Dental Room,' &c., appear to be regarded by a great number of people as quite a sufficient guarantee to the public of the person using such a sign.

(b) *Effects on Public Health.*

What effects are produced are, of course, on individuals only, but there is much evidence that bad results are often brought about by the practice of unqualified dentists.

In one instance, tooth extraction by a chemist resulted in necrosis of the jaw, which nearly ended fatally. Dental companies make almost their entire profit out of the sale of artificial teeth. The object of the qualified dentist, having a due sense of his duty, is to preserve for further use all teeth that can be saved. In practice dental companies sacrifice on an enormous scale both healthy teeth and teeth that might be saved, to the detriment of the public. Further, septic trouble is sometimes caused by the inefficient methods adopted. Ill-fitting false teeth are often supplied.

Cases of poisoning are reported to have occurred after the administration of local anæsthetics (*e.g.*, cocaine) of the effects of which the extractors have no technical knowledge. The dirty and careless methods employed by itinerant quacks in extracting teeth are characterised as harmful and are strongly condemned.

CHRISTIAN SCIENTISTS, FAITH HEALERS, AND SPIRITUALISTS.

(a) *Extent of Practice.*

Unqualified practice by Christian Scientists and Faith Healers is referred to by several Medical Officers of Health. Most of these references are to the effect that it is increasing, among the more important districts where this is reported being Sunderland, Manchester, Rochdale, St. Marylebone, County of East Sussex, Halifax and Bradford (Yorks.).

A somewhat kindred form of practice, which exists in the West Riding of Yorkshire and Durham, is prescribing while under hypnotic influence. In one large town in the former county, a woman, supposed to be mesmerised by her husband, diagnoses and prescribes in the absence of the patient, while in another case, it is stated that a young woman puts herself into a trance, in which condition she professes to be able to diagnose the ailment of any person and to furnish herbs suitable for the treatment of the case. The effects resulting from such treatment are not reported.

(b) *Effects on Public Health.*

Treatment by Christian Science appeals most strongly to the sentiments of deeply religious people to whom surgical interference is repugnant.

Some of the Medical Officers of Health who refer to it condemn it in strong terms. The effects they refer to, however, are only on individuals, and not on the public health as such. Malignant and other serious diseases are treated by Christian Science, and the "effect in serious cases is too obvious to need emphasis."

PROPRIETARY MEDICINES.

(a) *Extent of Use of Proprietary Medicines.*

The replies reveal that the use of proprietary medicines by the public is extremely widespread throughout the whole country. Not only are they largely purchased by the poorer classes, and consumed in enormous quantities, but the well-to-do have recourse to them in a large measure.

It is stated that chemists recommend proprietary medicines very extensively, and the large quantities of these proprietary drugs that have been placed upon the market during recent years have materially aided them in acting as unqualified practitioners.

They are also sold by grocers and at the stores of Co-operative Societies, and one Medical Officer of Health says that almost every little sweetshop in his district sells headache powders. The part that advertisements of these nostrums plays in deceiving the public as to their efficiency is adversely commented on. These advertisements, appearing not only in the daily press, but in religious and other papers and magazines, are often supported by persons representing themselves to be qualified to give medical and surgical advice, a fact which naturally acts as a recommendation to the public and promotes their sale.

Some of them have a world-wide reputation ; others have a local notoriety only,—the latter being prepared by some local chemist or manufacturer. Others again obtain a ready sale through the agency of the itinerant street corner or market quack, who claims for his nostrum healing properties of a very extensive nature.

One or two Medical Officers of Health have alleged that the Revenue Label affixed to proprietary medicines is responsible for the deception of many people as to the value of their contents. For instance, one officer states that many uneducated and under-educated persons believe (in spite of the statement that "This stamp implies no Government Guarantee") that they are issued with Government sanction and approval. He adds that the raising of revenue by these means is, from the medical standpoint, much to be deprecated.

The facility with which proprietary medicines can be obtained and indiscriminately used by the public is strongly condemned. Many of them contain powerful poisons, and preparations of such drugs as strychnia and digitalis are readily obtainable.

Connected with the use of proprietary medicines is the very common practice of obtaining through the post instructions as to courses of medical treatment, which are largely advertised.

Hygienic and health companies are alleged to do a large amount of this kind of work, without ever seeing the patients that are being treated. "They supply literature and cheap drugs at an extortionate cost, and cancer and consumptive patients are frequently defrauded of large sums of money." Courses of treatment are furnished in this way for almost every disease.

Reference may also perhaps be made here to proprietary infant foods, allusions to which are made by several Medical Officers of Health. They are stated to be much more used than formerly. Chemists are said to recommend them extensively. It is stated that some of these foods tend to produce inanition and scurvy. One Medical Officer of Health reports a case of an inquest upon a child who had been fed with some proprietary food recommended by a chemist. Examination of this so-called "patent food" revealed that it consisted of the dirtiest and most common kind of flour. The chemist was cautioned, and promised to desist from selling the food.

(b) *Effects upon Public Health.*

Many proprietary medicines are advertised as advised and sold in respect of minor ailments only, but a number of them profess to deal with such diseases as consumption, cancer, and other grave diseases.

In some cases their effect is only indirect, resulting in loss of time during which the disease, not being beneficially affected by the medicine, develops, complications often being set up, so that when finally the patient is driven to seek skilled medical advice, the disease is in so advanced a stage as to have become in some cases incurable. This is the case with incipient phthisis and malignant diseases. The former is often treated with a cough "composition" which does not touch the basis of the disease.

Another effect of the use of proprietary medicines is shown in the enormous amount of self-drugging practised, which is rendered so easy by the ready access which everyone may have to all kinds of drugs, in tabloid, liquid or pillule form. This is a habit which is stated to have enormously increased during the past few years.

Proprietary medicines are stated by one Medical Officer of Health to be responsible for many minor ailments, and perhaps serious illnesses. "Many are no doubt useful in their proper times, but the average lay mind is not sufficiently trained to know what is the proper time and where is the right remedy to use when the human body is out of health. These remedies are often resorted to without a doctor being first consulted. The persons using them do not know what is the matter with them, what drugs they are taking, or what is the habit of these drugs. . . The drugs are placed on the market by the makers with very general directions ; the dosage is more or less the same for all ages, takes no account whether the person is of active or sedentary habits, whether they are alcoholic subjects or not, and many of the drugs are given as cures for a

great variety of diseases." He points out that similar symptoms are produced by very different diseases, and adds "While this state of things exists, a great deal of the work done for the health of communities is counteracted. In the end the vendors of these articles are as much unqualified practitioners as a person who is not in possession of a recognised medical qualification, and as dangerous."

Proprietary medicines and powders are often given to infants and young children, and this practice is strongly condemned as harmful.

Cough mixtures, soothing syrups, and teething powders, administered to infants &c., for quieting purposes, and often containing opium, are particularly mentioned. A Medical Officer of Health reports that several cases of narcotic poisoning in children from teething powders have occurred. Some Medical Officers of Health point out that the use of such drugs has an important bearing on the question of infant mortality.

Notwithstanding that some Medical Officers of Health have stated that it is difficult to prove actual harm through taking the medicines (although they are often such as would on no account be prescribed by a qualified medical man), several instances of actual harm have been adduced. Two of these may suffice here, out of the numerous cases which have been collected.

Both have reference to a well known brand of kidney pills.

1. One Medical Officer of Health reports that on three separate occasions during the last year he has treated cases of supposed scarlet fever, in which the rash and symptoms were found to be due to the action of these pills.

2. The second case is contained in a newspaper report sent up by a Medical Officer of Health, of an inquest on a man who died from renal trouble, who had been taking these pills. The evidence produced at the inquest shewed that during the four weeks previous to his death the man had taken six boxes of the pills, each containing 40. (The direction on the box reads "One to three pills four times a day, and at bed time,") and the doctor who had been called in just prior to death was of opinion that the disease which had caused death had been aggravated by the excessive use of "patent" pills and the want of proper medical treatment. The jury returned a verdict in accordance with this evidence.

The following are some of the suggestions made by medical officers of health as to Proprietary Medicines and Infant Foods :—

1. The composition of all advertised remedies should be stated.
2. Their prescription and analysis should be determined by Government Analysis, at the vendor's expense.
3. The sale of headache powders and such like drugs should be prohibited.
4. The sale of infants' foods should be regulated.

SALE OF ABORTIFACIENTS AND PRACTICE BY ABORTIONISTS.

(a) *Extent of Practice.*

The sale of drugs intended to produce abortion and practice by abortion mongers, is shown by the replies to be very prevalent and to be increasing considerably in many parts of the country. The traffic is centred very largely in the greater and particularly the industrial towns. One Medical Officer of Health states that the use of instruments and the sale of drugs for the purpose of procuring abortion goes on in towns, especially manufacturing cities, to an extent which only medical men practising in such places can appreciate.

The replies from the Midlands and the North of England, and especially from Lancashire, Northumberland, Durham, the West Riding of Yorkshire, and Nottinghamshire, make constant reference to these practices.

The sale of abortion-producing drugs, often at exorbitant prices, is extensively carried on by herbalists, and unqualified drug sellers.

That some qualified chemists, however, do a secret traffic in abortifacients, many Medical Officers of Health bear witness. One states that diachylon is sold by chemists and druggists in bulk, and that several keep it ready for sale in 2*d.* packets, from which pills are made and sold by old women.

Persons 'touting' from door to door have been known to induce married women to take drastic medicines to produce abortion. A large proportion of this trade is stated to be done by itinerant hawkers, by women garbed as nurses, and by market quacks, who describe their medicines as intended to cure 'female irregularities.'

Advertisements of abortifacients appear in newspapers to an increasing extent. One Medical Officer of Health reports that abortifacients are freely advertised in thinly-veiled language, which evades the law, but is patent to everybody, and that the evil exists throughout the country. These advertisements "are really advertisements of abortionists. After one or two bottles containing harmless substances have been used, of course unavailingly, the serious offer of an operation is mooted. The same observations apply to ladies' 'outfitters,' places where syringes, douches, quinine pessaries, &c., are sold . . . . and it would be well to take comprehensive and energetic measures to put an end to this sort of thing, not only on account of its criminality, but also on account of its influence on the birthrate and on the moral character of the nation. The advertisements and appliances are sufficiently obvious to do harm in many directions. They are wholly deleterious." The same Medical Officer of Health, in instancing the prevalence of the practice, stated that in a recent case a midwife kept a ledger of patients on whom she had performed illegal operations, in some cases more than once, resulting in evidence being given in court by these patients. The midwife was sent to prison for 10 years' penal servitude. He concludes "It were worth while for the State to provide machinery for systematically stamping out such unregistered, unqualified, and illegal practice."

In a report forwarded by one Medical Officer of Health, which he made to his Town Council in 1906, on the extent of the sale of abortifacients, it is stated that 12 instances of sale were met with ; in some cases the pills contained 2·3 grains of diachylon and in others strong purgatives, *e.g.*, aloes and jalap.

(b) *Effects upon Public Health.*

The actual amount of damage done is very difficult to estimate, but many instances have been collected from the replies of lead poisoning directly attributable to the practice of taking drugs containing diachylon by married and unmarried women, some of them ending fatally. In the practice of one doctor six cases have occurred within the last two years due to this cause, and grave suspicions are entertained in several other instances. The practice results in an increase in the number of still-births and abortions. The injury to and destruction of fœtal life in this way has a serious effect upon infant mortality, and upon reproductive capacity in women. The practice of taking pills containing lead for so called ' female irregularities ' produces much suffering, weeks of ill-health, colic pains, anæmia, constipation, and prolonged incapacity for work.

UNQUALIFIED PRACTICE IN TREATMENT OF VENEREAL DISEASES.

(a) *Extent of Practice.*

In many of the great towns the treatment of venereal diseases is largely in the hands of unqualified persons.

Chemists, qualified and (more frequently) unqualified, and herbalists undertake this class of work. Many so-called specialists in venereal diseases have sprung up, and they appear to be on the increase. These specialists often acquire a great reputation, though entirely ignorant of medicine. Among those referred to in the replies are a poultry fancier and a retired publican.

One Medical Officer of Health reports them to be increasing, and very much to the fore. "They deal very ineffectually with the disease. They gather into their net not only those who are actually suffering from venereal disease, but also those who are suffering from nothing but the fear of it, or of impotence. They extract large sums of money from their victims by terrorism and the display of gruesome plates. Their advertisements are to be seen in many public and other conveniences, and the police are seemingly helpless unless they catch them in the act of affixing their unwholesome advertisements."

(b) *Effects upon Public Health.*

Bad results are often produced. The disease is wrongly diagnosed ; there is delay in adequate treatment, and owing to

the absence of advice as to preventive measures, the disease is frequently communicated to others. In many cases it only comes under the care of medical practitioners when symptoms of secondary or tertiary syphilis manifest themselves.

TREATMENT OF EYE DISEASES.

(a) *Extent of Practice.*

In the treatment of eye diseases unqualified practice seems to be rapidly on the increase, especially in the larger centres of population ; in many places ophthalmic work is stated to be passing into the hands of unqualified persons. Such unqualified practitioners may be classed under the following heads—

(1) *Chemists.*—Examples of such practice by chemists are quoted on page 3. Their assumption of such titles as "Ophthalmologist," and "Qualified Ophthalmic Optician," and the addition to their names of such letters as F.I.O., F.S.M.C. (Lond.), &c., lead the public to believe that they are fully qualified medical practitioners. Evidence to this effect is furnished by several Medical Officers of Health.

(2) *Unqualified Oculists.*—Many opticians prescribe and sell spectacles which are unsuitable and at the same time fail to recognise serious disease which may be present. Some unqualified oculists advertise largely, and travel up and down the country. One of these also practises as an aurist, does a large amount of such work. He appears to visit all parts of the country, announcing his visits beforehand in the local press. The public are undoubtedly misled into the belief that these men are properly qualified to practise.

(3) *Jewellers and Watchmakers.*—A large number prescribe and supply spectacles.

(4) *Quacks*, who specialise in eye diseases, are still met with, although their trade appears to be declining. "The working class public are losing confidence in the men who in former times held reputations for extracting fires, or bits of metal, &c., from the eye." This is attributed to the advance in education.

Unqualified practice in eye diseases is a pressing question, on account of the difficulty which exists in obtaining expert advice from a registered medical practitioner. A Medical Officer of Health points out that comparatively few medical men are qualified to do ophthalmic work, or can afford the time required for it, and that medical men do not take much interest in seeing that their patients go to the proper quarter. He adds that a large number of persons consider that it is not a matter upon which they should consult their medical adviser.

It is no doubt largely due to this belief of the public and to the dearth of skilled medical advice in eye diseases that unqualified practice in this class of work has attained to such large proportions.

Another factor in its increase is attributed by several Medical Officers of Health to the working of the Education (Administrative Provisions) Act, 1907, the parents of children who have been found

by the School Medical Officer to be suffering from defective eyesight taking them to the chemist or other unqualified person, and getting them fitted by him with a pair of spectacles.

(b) *Effects upon Public Health.*

Unqualified practice in eye diseases is strongly condemned in all quarters. By the unscientific methods that have been employed, eyesight has been seriously injured and even where no apparent injury has been inflicted, the spectacles supplied have been quite worthless. This is especially the case in respect of school children. Much damage is done in cases of conjunctivitis and corneal ulcer. Mistakes in diagnosis and treatment are very commonly reported. Errors in refraction cannot be properly diagnosed without the aid of mydriatics, and opticians and chemists cannot properly use these drugs.

Cases of incipient eye diseases, *e.g.*, glaucoma, are not recognised, and are improperly supplied with glasses by chemists. The latter have also been known to treat cases of ophthalmia neonatorum, with disastrous results. The Medical Officer of Health for a large town says that many cases could be quoted by members of the staff of the Eye and Ear Hospital of damage done.

UNQUALIFIED PRACTICE IN RELATION TO INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Infectious diseases have been referred to in dealing separately with the various forms of unqualified practice, but it may be well to sum up generally the extent of such practice as far as it affects these diseases.

It is in the direction of infectious diseases rather than in any other direction that the effect of unqualified practice on the public health can be traced. A large mass of evidence on this point is contained in the replies of Medical Officers of Health, and it reveals that throughout the country the public health is to some extent prejudiced by unqualified persons knowingly or unknowingly treating these cases. One Medical Officer of Health states that he has almost daily knowledge of the evil effects accruing in this respect.

Some unqualified men recognise the cases as being cases of infectious disease, and treat them without any notification being sent of their occurrence to the Medical Officer of Health. Others diagnose the cases incorrectly, and thus further complicate matters.

"When one considers the difficulty of diagnosis in many of the milder cases of scarlet fever, diphtheria, &c., it is highly probable that many of them would fail to be recognised by an untrained unqualified practitioner." The Medical Officer of Health from whose reply the above is extracted, points out that such proceedings add immensely to the difficulties of the Medical Officer of Health in preventing the spread of infectious diseases—

(1) by allowing infectious cases to mix with others without suspicion : and

(2) by rendering it almost impossible for the Medical Officer of Health to trace an epidemic to its source.

Several Medical Officers of Health point out the danger to the public health which may thus be caused by infected persons mixing freely with healthy people. Where unqualified men do notify, much trouble is often caused. During the last seven or eight years, a quack in York has notified cases of infectious disease through the parent or householder, and before his cases could be accepted as bonâ fide cases, or accepted at the Isolation Hospital, the Medical Officer of Health has required to see the cases personally.

As already stated, the certificates given by unqualified men are worded in a guarded and indefinite way, sometimes failing to give the information required.

In many cases the unqualified person who has been treating the case, when he sees that it is likely to have a fatal termination, suggests medical advice.

A few notes on specific instances, out of many collected, are appended.

Smallpox.

1. Cure by ointment. Herbalist prosecuted some years ago for spreading the infection.
2. Confluent smallpox—treated by a chemist five or six days unrecognised.
3. Outbreak spread through diagnosis by a herbalist as chickenpox.
4. When smallpox prevailed a few years ago, not uncommonly contacts insistently refused vaccination on ground that some nostrum they were consuming was quite sufficient protection.
5. Herbalist treated a case as "acne," leading to serious outbreak.
6. Treated by chemist with sarsaparilla and potass iodide.
7. In papular and vesicular stages treated by chemists and not recognised. It infected five persons, of whom one died of malignant form of disease.
8. Case treated by chemist with ointment as skin disease. At least one other person infected. A similar instance at another town was much more disastrous and resulted in at least one death.

Diphtheria.

1. Outbreak largely kept up, in Medical Officer of Health's opinion, by unqualified practice. Mild cases treated by chemists or herbalists for "ulcerated throat," "enlarged glands," or "mumps," and never isolated. Children return to school with fauces full of diphtheria infection, and thus disease is spread further.
2. Treatment by untrained medical enthusiast (a schoolmaster) resulted in death.
3. Cases of diphtheria or membranous croup notified by an unqualified practitioner have been found to be dead or dying when the official visit has been paid by the Medical Officer of Health.

4. Medical Officer of Health strongly suspects that several children were infected by a child, attended exclusively a short time previously by a district nurse for quinsy.
5. In 1907, a serious attack in a village continued for three months, attended by an unqualified practitioner. No notifications made and outbreak only discovered at inquest on a fatal case. Proceedings taken by Society of Apothecaries—fine £20 and costs.
6. Typical case (fatal) diagnosed by herbalist as bronchitis.

Scarlet Fever.

1. Spread owing to a chemist treating children in whom it was not recognised.
2. Attendance by district nurse on case for several days without calling in doctor.
3. Outbreak in 1902 undoubtedly spread owing to district nurse attending first child attacked during several days for what she called 'rose rash.'
4. Herbalist discovered sending medicine and lotion to a child found after three weeks to be suffering from scarlet fever.
5. Unrecognised case treated for 'want of blood' with patent pills.

Typhoid Fever.

In a serious epidemic in 1904–1905 it was common for people to depend on an unqualified 'Doctor's' administration externally and internally of certain 'drops.'

Measles.

1. Case said to be cured by Christian Science.
2. Treated before eruption by herbalist as consumption.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

Case treated by chemist—fatal. When seen by a doctor the child was blind.

Chicken-pox.

Case wrongly diagnosed by chemist, resulting in outbreak, over 60 suffering.

Anthrax (External).

Case treated as blind boil. Outbreak at farm detected through this case.

UNQUALIFIED PRACTICE IN RELATION TO CANCER.

Many unqualified persons are stated to undertake the treatment of cancer, tumours and other malignant diseases. "Cancer curers," so called, are very common and some obtain a wide reputation, and are resorted to from all quarters. These "curers" are often ignorant men. Some have been blacksmiths, railway porters and the like.

Cancer is also extensively treated by chemists and herbalists, and its cure is undertaken by "Medical Companies" and kindred institutions through the post. Bonesetters sometimes undertake the treatment of cancer. Residents in the country districts are attracted by the "curers" practising in the large towns.

The treatment is usually by the application of local remedies, as ointments, or caustic fluids. In one case perchloride of mercury is said to be used.

Heavy fees are usually charged, and large numbers of persons are being deluded by these specious quacks to their great detriment in health and pocket.

The cases of suffering referred to in the replies indicate that a large amount of harm is being done. The treatment in very many cases aggravates the disease. Much misery and pain in the later stages of the disease are caused, and in some instances premature death. This is the case particularly with regard to cancer of the breast, which is the commonest form of the disease treated.

A case is instanced in which one cancer curer diagnosed cancer of the breast where none existed, and his treatment of the case necessitated subsequent amputation. In another case, cancer of the rectum, which ended fatally, was treated by a chemist without seeing the patient.

UNQUALIFIED PRACTICE IN RELATION TO CONSUMPTION.

Some quacks specialise in the treatment of consumption, and are stated to attain wide reputation. "Consumption cures" are much advertised in the press, a fact which is adversely commented on by a few Medical Officers of Health. Herbalists and chemists are also reported to undertake the treatment of consumption.

The effects upon the public health, through the individual, are indirect. During its incipient stages, the disease might, by proper treatment, be eradicated, or at least mitigated. But erroneous treatment by quacks aggravates it, until the time when a cure might have been effected has gone by. Skilled advice is often not sought until too late. It is stated that no precautions are advised by these "consumption curers" to prevent the spread of the disease.

Other forms of unqualified practice may be briefly alluded to.

Electricians.

Treatment by electricity, electrical specialists, vibration, and "high frequency" seems to be fairly common, and has been attended by unsatisfactory results in many instances. It is chiefly referred to in the replies from some of the larger towns.

First Aid Associations.

Several Medical Officers of Health allege that ambulance men and members of First Aid Associations are showing an increasing tendency to go beyond their province.

Itinerant Quacks.

The public are still duped to a very large extent by the methods of the itinerant quack, who travels from market to market and attracts a crowd by the ruse of extracting the teeth of all comers free. It is difficult to say whether such quackery is increasing, but at any rate a great deal of it still exists. Apart from the evil that is done in the way of teeth extraction (which has already been referred to under "Dentists" on page 8) references by Medical Officers of Health to the effects of the pills, ointments, salves and compositions that he sells are the reverse of favourable. Some are suspected to sell abortifacients. Even where no direct harm is produced, the time which is lost before the unfortunate patient finds out his mistake and turns to skilled advice, has caused the disease to get firmer hold and renders a cure more difficult and suffering more severe.

Specialists.

Pseudo-specialism of all descriptions abounds. Several kinds have already been referred to. Among others may be mentioned rupture curers and hernia specialists, whose practice is referred to as deleterious, pile specialists, beauty specialists, who perform small surgical operations, skin disease specialists, including erysipelas specialists, and others who are described in more or less vague terms as "Disease Specialists," "Healing Specialists," or merely "Specialists." This form of unqualified practice is said to be markedly on the increase.

Unqualified Assistants.

One or two isolated references are made to the practice of medicine and surgery by unqualified assistants to medical men. Practice by them seems to be declining in magnitude, and to have very little effect on the public health.

There are also one or two instances of men practising who have either qualified and have been struck off the register, or have failed in their medical examination.

Hydropathic Establishments.

One Medical Officer of Health points out that only a small percentage of patients coming for treatment to hydropathic institutions consult a medical man. Most of the prescribing is said to be done by the bathmen and proprietors. Several of the larger establishments have resident medical men, but the smaller ones only call in a medical man in cases of emergency.

Domestic Remedies.

"Certain" cures are sometimes kept in a family and handed down, and such domestic remedies are much believed in. "In nearly every village there is some person who has some celebrated prescription, which has been given them by their 'fore-elders,' for making 'cure-all' ointments and liniments, and these secret remedies have a fair sale, and escape stamp duty." Some well-known proprietary medicines claim to have originated in this way.

Old Women.

In the Rural Districts also, old women, who are sometimes known as "wise women," still do a certain amount of medical and surgical practice. Their speciality is usually the treatment of abscesses and ulcers, whitlows and gatherings, burns and scalds, by means of secret salves, ointments, herbs, "charms" and so forth, often of a disgusting nature. Several cases of injury have been noted, *e.g.* poisoned wounds, necessitating amputation. This class of practice appears to be diminishing in quantity.

Witchcraft.

In a few of the more outlying rural districts, belief in witchcraft is still held by a few people.

SOME SPECIMENS OF ADVERTISEMENTS OF UNQUALIFIED PRACTITIONERS.

SUFFERER, DO NOT DESPAIR!

Consult Prof. . . . . , Herbalist.

I HAVE had over 19 years' practice in the treatment of disease and have been successful in curing some of the worst complaints with Herbs—God's gift to us, His people—after drugs have failed in the hands of clever men. I give advice free, personally or by letter. After getting my advice, if you think proper to give me a trial, I guarantee to give satisfaction, or return your money.

. . . . EXCELSIOR WIND & WATER PILLS

Are a never-failing Remedy for Gravel, Pain in the Back, Lumbago, Dropsy, Inflammation of the Bladder and the Kidneys, and all Obstructions in the Water Passages; also Heartburn, Flatulence, Pain in the Stomach, Swelling after Meals, Flying Pains in the Head, etc.; also as a Blood Purifier they stand without a rival.

Sold in Boxes 7½d. and 1/-; Post Free, 9d. and 1/1.

The Large Box contains double the quantity. Sample Free on receipt of stamp for postage.

GOLDEN WORDS FOR LADIES.

. . . . . (Ladies' Medical Adviser) after a long and successful practice, wishes to thank her numerous patients for their kind recommendations, and to announce that she is still giving her examinations and advice at her private residence Free of Charge, and in consequence of so many enquiries being made by persons who have heard so much of her wonderful cures, it has become further necessary to circulate these publications. She is certainly endowed with a wonderful power, and all who come under her treatment seem to get well as if by magic. . . . . has had 20 years' hospital experience, and has turned those years into excellent account. She has made a special study of the hundred and one ailments peculiar to her own sex, which the mere man knows nothing about, not even the average medical man. Many a woman who has suffered and got weary from her incessant sufferings has blessed the day she first went to see . . . . . Some of her cures are wonderful to the outsider, not so much to . . . . . herself, for having made almost a life study of her work she is able to diagnose quickly and get at the root of the complaint. Call upon . . . . . at once and out with your troubles. Like many others before you, you will bless the day you did so.

A FEW WORDS FROM . . . . . HERSELF.

MY DEAR SISTER,

A few words to you in confidence.—When I left the hospital I received a divine inspiration, and since then it has been my study to seek out cases that have been given up as incurable. I have been successful in hundreds where the medical faculty have failed I now wish to call your attention to the Malthusian question. I am of opinion that working people should not have a larger family than they can well support and educate. You can with confidence place yourself under my care. I have had 20 years' hospital experience as a hospital nurse, and have retained my youthful appearance through the use of certain secret remedies that I have. The same I will impart to you. Pay me a visit.

Yours faithfully,

. . . . . .

Do you suffer from Indigestion, Billiousness, Sick Headache, Weak Stomach, Constipation, Liver Complaint, or Wind on the Stomach. Have you a pain under the Heart, have you soreness or a tenderness at the pit of the stomach, is your appetite poor, have you sleepless nights, are you melancholy, is your complexion sallow and eyes dull and heavy, are you tired and weary in the mornings, is there a weakness and pains in the back, do you feel languid and nervous, do you suffer from mental and nervous prostration, are you anæmic?

. . . . . is a Specialist in all cases of irregularities, stoppages, &c., no matter from whatever cause arising, and is now supplying the latest improved specialities in India-Rubber Malthus appliances. Call and see samples.

Hours of Attendance (Private Rooms): Every Afternoon from 2 to 4; every Evening from 6 to 9, except Sundays.

Ladies residing at a distance can communicate by letter, stating age and symptoms of complaint (stamped envelope).

Important to Ladies!

MADAME . . . . . .

Ladies' Specialist,

Treats all Complaints incidental to her sex. Obstructions and Irregularities specially treated. Success Guaranteed. Advice Gratis. Ladies, call or write for further particulars and proofs.

LICENSED ACCORDING TO ACT OF PARLIAMENT.

IT is frequently a matter of considerable importance to Ladies to know where to obtain the best of Medical Advice and Treatment in very obstinate and long-standing cases of Obstructions and Irregularities. It is a subject, too, which for various reasons the medical world give very little attention to, hence the frequency of their failure to give relief when relief is most essentially needed. Madame . . . . has made the treatment of Female Ailments a life-long study; her extensive practice in all complaints incidental to her sex, together with over 16 years of ever-increasing success in the treatment of Obstructions and Irregularities in both married and single ladies, prompt her to advise ladies to consult her, and her only. We have frequently to cure after others have failed to give relief, and we can prove this statement beyond a doubt, to all ladies who are interested in the matter. We are daily receiving testimonials from grateful patients whom we have cured; and, undoubtedly, Madame . . . . . is the most reliable Ladies' Adviser in the North of England, to say the least about it. The annexed Testimonials fully bear out these facts, they speak volumes for themselves, and they ought to convince even the most sceptical reader.

Madame . . . . . Famous Female Mixture

IS WARRANTED TO REMOVE ALL OBSTRUCTIONS AND IRREGULARITIES OF THE FEMALE SEX.

It is the remedy par excellence for married ladies. It is the strongest and most certain medicine in existence, and it has been employed with complete success in hundreds of obstinate cases. This remedy is warranted to be superior to all other Female Medicines, inasmuch as it will positively restore irregularity even after all other remedies have failed to give relief. It is now universally admitted to be the only Genuine and always reliable Mixture for all Female Complaints; it never fails to give relief, generally in a few days, and we can recommend it with the utmost confidence for all Obstructions. It is pleasant to take, contains nothing of an injurious nature, and it will not harm the most delicate constitution.

Price 5/- per bottle; by post 5/6, with full Directions and Advice.

REJECT WORTHLESS IMITATIONS. READ TESTIMONIALS ON OTHER SIDE.

Madame . . . . . Special Female Pills

Are the Best and most effective PILLS on Earth for the most obstinate cases of Obstructions and Irregularities.

These Pills can be recommended with the greatest confidence. They never fail to give relief, even in the most stubborn cases, hence they can be specially recommended to married ladies as the most Certain and Reliable Pills. Insist upon having Madame . . . . . all others are inferior.

Price 2/3, Strongest 4/6 per Box, Post free, with full Directions and Advice.

All kinds of Surgical Elastic Rubber Appliances kept in stock.

Illustrated List Free, for Penny Stamp for Postage. These appliances are for the prevention.

LADIES WRITING FOR MY ADVICE should state the particulars of their case fully, and enclose a stamped envelope for reply.

Fullest Advice always at Patron's disposal. The utmost secrecy may be strictly relied upon.

Hours of Attendance: from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. ☞ **We have NO AGENTS anywhere.**

LADIES!

. . . . . Famous Female Remedy

Has stood the test for twenty years, and is to-day the only remedy of its kind that can be thoroughly relied on as a safe and sure remedy in all cases of irregularities of the system.

This remedy is guaranteed to be perfectly harmless, can be taken by the most delicate without causing any inconvenience whatever. A Trial Bottle will convince you of its superiority over all others.

Price, 2/9. Extra Strong, 4/6 per bottte.
Pills, 2/9 and 4/6 per Box.

Post Free, under cover, in Plain Wrapper.

Ladies requiring advice, should call at our address, or send Stamped Envelope, giving full particulars of their case. We charge nothing for advice. Mr. . . . . may be consulted Daily from 10 to 10, except Thursdays, and will be pleased to see all old and new clients at our new address :—

See other side for Testimonials.

Copies of Testimonials.

Dear Sir,—After spending a lot of money on useless remedies I thought I would give your remedy a trial, and am highly delighted with the result.

Sir,—Please send me a bottle of your Famous Remedy for a friend. The one you sent me a month ago proved sufficient. P.O. for 4/6 enclosed.

Dear Sir,—I hardly know how to thank you for the good you have done me in such a short time. You may be sure I shall do my uttermost to recommend you to anyone requiring anything of the kind. Thanking you again for your kindness.

Dear Mr. . . . ,—I only required two doses of your medicine, so posted the bottle on to a friend with the same result.

Dear Sir,—After taking half a bottle of your Extra Strong Mixture, I am pleased to say it had the desired effect.

Dear Sir,—I received your bottle, and am pleased to say it has done all that was required.

What constitutes a clever Specialist ?

THE ANSWER IS :—Persons who have devoted their talents to the study of special ailments, and in practice have proved themselves to be of superior merit in treating such.

It is an undeniable fact that in all

Sexual Ailments !

Before or after marriage, whether ranked as Disease Impediments or Malformations, the number of astounding cures performed by Mr. . . . . have proved him a sound practical Expert in dealing with such. His extensive experience both on Home and Foreign stations, dealing with seamen, military, naval, artisans, and private individuals, for 45 years, has enabled him to utilise the most up-to-date, modern, rapid, painless, curative treatment (where the general practitioner fails), and that Without Mercury or such questionable drugs. The most terribly disfigured, run-down, nerve-shattered individuals, may be thoroughly restored to pristine health and happiness, and may depend on secrecy, courtesy, reasonable charges, and plain descriptive speaking. Separate waiting rooms. No testimonials published, but wonderful references.

Mr. . . . . having been all his life in the medical profession **gives his advice free to all** in business hours.

THANKS

For Past 4 Years Patronage.

There is still hope for the hopeless

FROM ALL PARTS THEY COME FOR MY FREE PRACTICAL ADVICE.

My Testimonials are numerous but never published. My treatment in most Extreme Nervous Prostration, Insomnia, Debility,, Failing Power, Errors, Kidney and Urinary Ailments, Bronchial and Chest Complaints, Severe Skin Maladies, Baldness, and every Species of Digestive Disarangement, are by me thoroughly understood. Most Carefully and scientifically treated on Modern principals, having a well stocked dispensary, with all valuable up-to-date Specifics. My tuition has been in the school of experience Practical. My servitude long and varied, having held both Military and civil appointments, after my apprentiship to that eminent Physician and Surgeon **DR.** . . . .

My Female Specifics are reliable and Government Stamped, as are also our Masculine Renovator at 1/1½ a box.

My hours of attendance are On Week-days, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m., Sundays, 2 a.m. to 6 p.m., when I describe to you your ailments without mystery.

PRIVACY, COURTESY AND DISPATCH.

GOOD NEWS FOR
DEAF & BLIND.

SPECIAL VISIT

TO

. . . .

FRIDAY, MAY 7th.

THEY SEE! THEY HEAR!

NOBLE TRIBUTES from far and near to the success of the . . . . METHOD of treatment of DEAFNESS and BLINDNESS WITHOUT OPERATION.

"It is one of the easiest things imaginable for a man to say "I can do this or that," but what is required at the present day is proof, absolute, of the fact that his assertion is something more than an empty boast. What can be more striking proof of the truth of the allegation that the . . . . Method is superior to any other system of treatment of Deafness and Blindness from any cause than the statement of facts following? Unless there is a reasonable hope of the patient being benefited he is at once told so ; but should the case present any diminution of hope, it is undertaken, and in almost every instance successfully so.

A NEW TREATMENT WITHOUT OPERATION, for all Diseases of the Eye and Ear. Successful treatment by correspondence. Write for Testimonials and Printed Questions to Answer, SENT FREE.

MR. . . . . .

Oculist and Aurist,

ATTENDS PERSONALLY AS FOR LAST TWENTY YEARS,

PRIVATE CONSULTING ROOMS AT

. . . . . .

FEES MODERATE.
CONSULTATIONS FREE.

NO CASE IS UNDERTAKEN UNLESS THERE BE A REASONABLE HOPE OF CURE OR BENEFIT TO THE PATIENT.

TO MOTHERS.

From the earliest days her daughter's life is or should be the mother's constant care.

But every girl is not blessed with such a mother. Many mothers through foolish and false modesty, or from sheer ignorance of themselves and their maternal duty, withhold the necessary knowledge from their daughters.

Mrs. . . .
. . . . . .
VegetableCompound
"A Woman's Cure For Women's Ills."

It is to such women as these, whose girlhood has been blighted by ignorance, that Mrs. . . . . has a special message.

Her great discovery, known the world over as . . . . . Vegetable Compound, has saved thousands of suffering women from a life of misery. It is a woman's medicine for women's ills, and promptly cures, corrects and regulates all the feminine functions of the body.

A LADY RESIDING AT . . . . . , WRITES TO THANK US FOR OUR WONDERFUL MEDICINE:—

1st June, 1909.

"After the wonderful improvement I have experienced from your medicines, I feel the least I can do is to give you a testimonial, so that my suffering sisters in general, and in this neighbourhood in particular, may know that by following out your instructions, brighter days are in store for them.

It is with gratitude and a thankful heart I write you these few lines, and am glad that through the medium of a halfpenny evening paper your valuable book was brought to my notice, and from that I afterwards became acquainted with your wonderful medicines.

It will at all times be my duty and pleasure to recommend your Cures to all my friends."

Letter on file in our offices.

Name on application.

. . . . . Vegetable Compound is on sale at all chemists and drug stores, price 2s. 6d. and 4s. 6d. per bottle, or will be sent direct, on receipt of price, by the . . . . . Medicine Co., ...

every woman needs this

FREE D38

80-page book

THE . . . . . MEDICINE COMPANY

. . . . . .

Please send me free and post paid. in plain envelope, "Mrs. . . . . Private Text-Book upon Ailments Peculiar to Women."

Name .....

Street .....

Town ..... B.Y.T.

DR. . . . . .

The Healer.

Free Consultations for Men, Women, and Children.

Hours: 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.

For the last 25 years I have been specially employed in WOMEN'S DISEASES, and having a large experience, can show a record of work and Cures almost unequalled.

Do you suffer from poor circulation, cold feet, insomnia?

Have you bearing down pains, scanty menses, too much pain in the back, costive bowels, prolupus of uterus, or anus pain in the back?

Have you a bad leg, varicose veins, or piles?

I can Cure you without operations or elastic stockings.

Have you tumour or cancer?

If not too far gone, I can Cure you; see me before going under any operation.

Have you skin disease, nervous complaints, rheumatism, spinal and hip complaints?

Come to see me; I can tell your complaints without asking what you suffer from; read your character without asking any questions.

Come while you have the opportunity within reach, and see what can be done for you.

APPENDIX.

STATEMENT showing, as regards those towns having a population of over 20,000 at the census of 1901, the extent of the practice of medicine and surgery by unqualified persons, and the effect of such practice.

Aberdare U.D.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Large amount of unqualified practice by (1) prescribing chemists, who treat constipation, diarrhœa, convulsions, teething troubles, &c., in children, and venereal disease, dyspepsia, constipation, diarrhœa, headache, &c., in adults ; (2) so-called opticians, who not only prescribe glasses, but treat severe cases of astigmatism, &c. ; (3) herbalists, believed to treat female ailments and sell abortifacients ; (4) bonesetters, who treat serious cases. Other forms are dentistry (almost invariably teeth extracting), cancer curing, and sale of drugs by women. There is also much treatment by non-resident quacks.

Effect of such practice.—Detrimental to individuals. (1) Cannot be calculated, but harm is obviously done. (2) Children found wearing unsuitable glasses. Improper treatment frequently applied in cases of eye disease. (4) Tubercular bone disease treated with sometimes disastrous results.

Abertillery U.D.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Some prescribing by chemists exists, but as most of the miners are members of medical clubs, it is smaller in extent on this account. Some bonesetters practise.

Effect of such practice.—Not stated.

Accrington Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Not increasing. Constant for the last ten years, but very formidable in amount.

Effect of such practice.—Medical Officer of Health believes the public health suffers on account of the best time for a cure being taken up by the attempts of unqualified persons.

Acton U.D.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Not increasing. It is inappreciable in extent.

Effect of such practice.—Not stated.

Aldershot U.D.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—It has always been large in extent, and could not very well be larger. Chemists undertake both medical and surgical cases. Treatment of venereal diseases is mostly in the hands of quacks, who are largely resorted to by soldiers and others.

Effect of such practice.—It is difficult to state the effect, as the greater portion of unqualified practice is not brought to light, but reference is made to fatal treatment of phthisis by a herbalist, cases of lead poisoning through the sale by quacks of abortifacients, and the ravages of syphilis on the public health owing to its ineffective treatment by unqualified persons. Proprietary medicines are not only frequently useless, but at times injurious. Instances given of supposed scarlet fever caused by a popular brand of kidney pills.

Ashton-under-Lyne Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Rather on the increase.

Effect of such practice.—Prejudicial, *e.g.*, by mismanagement in dressing wounds, sale of useless spectacles for children by opticians, and in some cases through treatment of ailments by herbalists.

Aston Manor Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Not increasing. There have been no complaints in recent years about any unqualified person.

Effect of such practice.—Not stated.

Bacup Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Not increasing. It has diminished since 1877. There is no visiting by unqualified persons at patients' homes, but one or two chemists, qualified and unqualified, prescribe, having "consulting rooms" at their shops.

Effect of such practice.—Wrong treatment observed in a few cases, one nearly ending fatally, and entailing long suffering. Some secret remedies and proprietary medicines contain powerful drugs which do serious harm.

Barking Town U.D.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Apparently not increasing. Such practice is confined to (1) A small colony of "Peculiar People"; (2) chemists, who do a rather less amount of such work than in other districts; (3) a district nurse, who treats minor injuries and surgical defects at the Town Hall; (4) a quack, who sell lozenges at neighbouring fairs.

Effect of such practice.—Cases of scarlet fever and other diseases deprived of proper medical treatment because of advice of ignorant neighbours. (1) A few inquests held. (2) No injury traceable. (3) No harm traceable. The distance of the nearest hospital renders her work useful. (4) Not stated.

Barnsley Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Such practice chiefly confined to (1) prescribing chemists; and (2) one or two herbalists.

Effect of such practice.—Their proceedings are on the whole beneficial to the medical profession, and if the public suffer, it is their own fault.

Barrow-in-Furness County Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Such practice is probably not greatly different to that obtaining in other towns. (1) Two so-called herb doctors practise; (2) much self-medication by sick poor.

Effect of such practice.—(1) Probably no great harm done. (2) Though direct harm may not be done, much waste of money takes place.

Barry U.D.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Non-existent.

Bath City and County Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Not increasing. Counter prescribing by chemists probably less than in most towns. Only two herbalists.

Effect of such practice.—No injurious effects known, except that certain advertised nostrums are said to influence the birth-rate.

Batley Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Non-existent. (A resident bonesetter is reported to do much work at Huddersfield and neighbouring towns.)

Beckenham U.D.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Not increasing. Extent not stated.

Effect of such practice.—Nil.

Bedford Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Not increasing. Considerable amount of counter-prescribing by chemists in minor ailments. Herbalists and other quacks visit the town. Small following of Christian Scientist Church. Some members of first-aid associations over zealous.

Effect of such practice.—Not appreciable, but experience shows that grave injury to individual health sometimes results.

Bilston U.D.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Not increasing. Less than formerly, except as regards so-called midwives, practically all of whom are ignorant and uncultured women.

Effect of such practice.—Not stated.

Birkenhead County Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Difficult to say whether it is increasing, but there is a considerable amount. Infectious disease treated.

Effect of such practice.—Difficult to estimate, but such practice is contrary to the interest of the public.

Birmingham City and County Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—A large amount of such practice exists but there is difference of opinion as to whether it is increasing, as it has been prevalent throughout the city for a considerable number of years.

Effect of such practice.—Considerable harm results, *e.g.*, many cases of injury through prescribing by chemists and herbalists, specialists in venereal diseases, 'high frequency' and massage treatment, and sale of abortifacients, especially salts of lead.

Blackburn County Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Not increasing. Extent not stated.

Effect of such practice.—Nil.

Blackpool County Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Not increasing. (1) Fair trade done by herbalists. (2) Trade by certain women in abortifacients.

Effect of such practice.—Tendency for unqualified persons to conceal cases of infectious disease. (1) Doubtful. (2) Serious.

Blyth U.D.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—It has always been prevalent. Any increase is not out of proportion to increase in population.

Effect of such practice.—Necessarily prejudicial, but general rather than particular. Work of bonesetters reported to have caused evil results.

Bolton County Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Increasing practice, *e.g.*, by herbalists and unregistered dentists. Much prescribing at drug stores, even by unlicensed chemists. Bonesetters visit district.

Effect of such practice.—Undoubtedly injurious, but difficult to give details without inquiry.

Bootle County Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—M.O.H. has no information.

Bournemouth County Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Non-existent.

Bradford City and County Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Practice increasing as a whole. It is made up as follows :—(1) Abortionists—increasing. (2) Cancer curers—increasing. (3) Specialists in venereal diseases—largely increasing. (4) Opticians and aurists—advertise extensively and are very common. (5) Herbalists have increased enormously and advertise everywhere. (6) Chemists—prescribing by them is a matter of common knowledge—they treat minor medical and sometimes surgical cases. (7) Christian Scientists—increasing. (8) Sale of proprietary medicines—they are extensively advertised for all ailments, and their use is much abused. (9) Vendors of salves and curers of sores. (10) "Water casters"—a few still exist and do a thriving business. (11) Medical electricians. (12) Bonesetters—diminishing as a class.

Effect of such practice.—(2) Very detrimental to individuals. Operation postponed until disease becomes incurable. (3) The diseases are very ineffectually dealt with, and the credulity of the victims is taken advantage of. (4) Much damage done. (5) Prejudicial to individuals. (7) Their treatment distinctly militates against ultimate recovery. (8) Irreparable injury caused in many cases. (11) Distinctly unsatisfactory results. (12) Detrimental.

Brighouse Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Not increasing during last 10 years.

Effect of such practice.—Inappreciable.

Brighton County Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Practically non-existent. One herbalist does a certain amount of practice.

Effect of such practice.—Not stated.

Bristol City and County Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—It has assumed large proportions and is probably increasing in extent. (1) Prescribing by chemists universal, at least one visiting patients. (2) Large business done by widely advertising establishments of druggists, herbalists, and medical electricians. (3) Christian Scientists do considerable business and apparently increasing. (4) Advertisements of vendors of abortifacients are widely prevalent and are scarcely veiled. (5) Extensive use of proprietary medicines. (6) Itinerant quacks, medical electricians, and a hernia specialist.

Effect of such practice.—Cannot fail to be detrimental.

Bromley Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Non-existent, beyond the usual amount of prescribing by chemists.

Effect of such practice.—Not stated.

Burnley County Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Not increasing. There is a certain amount by herbalists and druggists, and a few bonesetters visit the town. Also ophthalmic work by "certified opticians," and dentistry by unqualified dentists.

Effect of such practice.—Practice of eye-work among school children by unqualified persons has a harmful effect. Otherwise, Medical Officer of Health is not in a position to state.

Burslem Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Not increasing. Practice by chemists (almost every ailment), herbalists (*inter alia*, venereal disease, and treatment of cancer by women). Sale of abortifacients.

Effect of such practice.—Abortifacients, and "cures for cancer" to a less extent, affect the public health prejudicially.

Burton-upon-Trent County Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Not increasing, but there is a large amount in respect of (1) Chemists; (2) sale of abortifacients—by no means uncommon; (3) bonesetters.

Effect of such practice.—Sometimes deplorable. (1) Small-pox treated with ointment, resulting in several days' exposure of the infected person, who infected at least one other. (2) Several cases of lead poisoning have resulted from use of diachylon. (3) Produce grave effects, *e.g.*, amputation of leg necessitated after treatment of quiescent tubercular joint.

Bury County Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Practically non-existent.

Cambridge Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Non-existent, except prescribing by chemists.

Effect of such practice.—Not stated.

Cannock U.D.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Non-existent. (This appears to refer only to unqualified assistants.)

Canterbury City and County Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Such practice remains constant in amount. At least two chemists prescribe, one acting as an unqualified dentist.

Effect of such practice.—No evidence, but the assumption is that it is deleterious.

Cardiff City and County Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Such practice, especially by chemists, is very extensive and probably increasing.

Effect of such practice.—No certain information, but injury to health through faulty diagnosis has occurred.

Carlisle City.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—There is a considerable amount of such practice, but whether it is increasing cannot be stated, except as regards spectacle prescribing, which has greatly increased since the Education (Administrative Provisions) Act, 1907, came into operation. Other unqualified practice by herbalists, pseudo-dentists, and a visiting bonesetter.

Effect of such practice.—Often gives rise to prolonged suffering and irreparable damage, especially in regard to ophthalmic work.

Chadderton U.D.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Non-existent in district, but recourse is had to quacks living in neighbouring towns, and to treatment by post.

Effect of such practice.—Not stated.

Chatham Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—There is and always has been a large amount, but whether it is increasing cannot be stated.

Effect of such practice.—Detrimental. Infectious and contagious diseases are known to be often treated.

Cheltenham Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Not increasing; amount not large. A certain quantity of prescribing by chemists exists, but the chief

form is the use of proprietary medicines and widely advertised modes of treatment.

Effect of such practice.—Prescribing by chemists has sometimes been dangerous in preventing early diagnosis of infectious disease. In rare cases a coroner's inquest has revealed such treatment.

Chester City and County Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—No evidence of such practice, except prescribing by chemists.

Effect of such practice.—Occasionally serious and detrimental, and at all times capable of being such, especially in regard to infectious disease and phthisis.

Chesterfield Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Practice of medicine, but not surgery, by druggists and herbalists has been prevalent during the last 10 years, but is not known to be increasing.

Effect of such practice.—Reduction of birth rate through sale of preventatives to conception.

Chiswick U.D.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Non-existent.

Chorley Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Not increasing to any marked extent, very little unqualified practice by residents, but cancer curers, and herbalists, &c., outside the Borough are resorted to.

Effect of such practice.—No statistics available, but deleterious in individual cases, *e.g.*, cancer.

Colchester Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—No marked extension noticeable, but there is considerable counter prescribing by chemists, and by one herbalist.

Effect of such practice.—Detrimental. Valuable time lost through non-recognition by chemists of cancer, phthisis, &c. Proper precautions occasionally neglected by them in regard to infectious disease.

Colne Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—There is unqualified practice by chemists (prescribing), herbalists, and vendors of ointments and pills.

Effect of such practice.—A great amount of harm done.

Coseley U.D.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Apparently diminishing, but there is a great deal of prescribing by chemists, one of whom (unqualified) visits persons at their homes.

Effect of such practice.—Sometimes disastrous, a medical man being sometimes not called in until death is imminent ; *e.g.*, diabetic gangrene, and cancer of breast.

Coventry City and County Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Not increasing. Some amount exists, and there is probably considerable prescribing by chemists.

Effect of such practice.—Difficult to generalise, but evil effects have been noticed in connection with children's ailments, *e.g.*, ringworm, entailing prolonged absence from school.

Crewe Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Not known to be increasing (but Medical Officer of Health has only had a short tenure of office).

Effect of such practice.—Not stated.

Croydon County Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—No evidence of increase. Minor ailments treated considerably by chemists, but treatment by unqualified persons of more serious ailments is probably checked by the holding of inquests on all uncertified deaths.

Effect of such practice.—Unsatisfactory.

Darlington Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Not increasing. Amount remains constant. Chemists have always prescribed largely. Other forms of practice are done by herbalists (male and female), bonesetters, and Christian Scientists.

Effect of such practice.—No injury done.

Darwen Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Undoubtedly increasing. Medical Officer of Health enumerates chemists, herbalists (one professing to diagnose by spiritual agency and visiting at patients' homes), eyesight and spectacle specialists, rupture and hernia specialist, dentists, itinerant quacks, vapour bath institution, many proprietary medicines.

Effect of such practice.—Injurious, *e.g.*, to teeth of children and eyesight. Action of a well known brand of pills shown to be harmful to the human system.

Derby County Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Prescribing by chemists and especially self-drugging by tabloids are increasing ; practice by herbalists is constant in amount. Other forms of unqualified practice in the town, *i.e.*, by bonesetters, Christian Scientists, &c., are probably decreasing.

Effect of such practice.—Injurious. Diphtheria, measles, and smallpox spread owing to failure of recognition by unqualified practitioners, and birth rate diminished by evil effects of diachylon. Venereal diseases wrongly treated by chemists, revealing serious conditions to medical men afterwards consulted.

Devonport County Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Prescribing by chemists increasing. The unqualified midwife is also a great difficulty.

Effect of such practice.—Absence of proper medical treatment of children's diseases causes great delay in their cure and serious loss of school attendance. At least 50 per cent. of school children applying for certificates of exemption from school are treated by chemists.

Dewsbury Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Not increasing. Such practice is done by (1) prescribing chemists, (2) herbalists, and by means of (3) sale of quack medicines in market and other proprietary medicines.

Effect of such practice.—Cannot be estimated. The prescribing of drugs, especially those having complicated therapeutic actions, by persons unable to diagnose cause of symptoms, and unacquainted with patient's clinical condition, is fraught with much danger. Instances of nearly fatal poisoning quoted.

Doncaster Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Practically non-existent.

Effect of such practice.—Nil.

Dover Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Prescribing by chemists increasing greatly, otherwise not much unqualified practice.

Effect of such practice.—Injurious, especially in leading to evasion of reporting infectious disease under the Infectious Disease (Notification) Act.

Dudley County Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Apparently not increasing. Medical Officer of Health is aware of only one instance of such practice, a dispenser to a local practitioner.

Effect of such practice.—Not stated.

Ealing Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Non-existent.

Eastbourne Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Not increasing. Such practice is very small in amount.

Effect of such practice.—Inappreciable.

East Ham Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Non-existent.

Ebbw Vale U.D.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Large amount of such practice exists :—(1) District much infested by itinerant quacks. (2) Chemists practise counter prescribing and sell proprietary medicines to a considerable extent.

Effect of such practice.—Cannot be stated.

Eccles Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Counter prescribing by chemists is largely carried on ; otherwise unqualified practice is non-existent.

Effect of such practice.—Injurious.

Edmonton U.D.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—It has not increased much during last few years. Extent not stated.

Effect of such practice.—Deplorable. Evil effects referred to in regard to drug taking through the medium of advertisements and chemists. Many miscarriages and premature births caused by abortifacients.

Enfield U.D.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—No evidence that it is carried on to any extent.

Effect of such practice.—Not stated.

Erith U.D.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Not increasing. Extent not stated.

Effect of such practice.—Practically nil.

Exeter City and County Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Non-existent.

Farnworth U.D.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Not increasing. Such practice is confined to a few herbalists.

Effect of such practice.—Nil.

Felling U.D.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Increasing, more especially in regard to herbalists and prescribing chemists. Surgery practised extensively by so-called 'specialists.'

Effect of such practice.—No definite information available.

Fenton U.D.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Not stated whether increasing or not. One unqualified man practises as a prescribing chemist, and two non-resident women consulted by residents.

Effect of such practice.—Distinctly harmful in the case of young infants.

Finchley U.D.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Not stated whether increasing or not. A great deal of unqualified practice by chemists exists, especially in regard to school-children. A large number of parents consult opticians with reference to the eyesight of their children.

Effect of such practice.—No specific instance of harm noted, but such practice amongst children constitutes a serious drawback.

Folkestone Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Not stated whether increasing or not. Certain women act as midwives, and by not professing to be such, evade provisions of Midwives Act.

Effect of such practice.—Illness, and in a few cases death attributed.

Gateshead County Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Not stated whether increasing or not. The following are enumerated :—(1) Bonesetters. (2) Herbalists. (3) A consumption specialist. (4) Ophthalmic oculists.

Effect of such practice.—No information available.

Gillingham Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—One ' medical herbalist ' practises—otherwise non-existent.

Effect of such practice.—Not stated.

Glossop Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Not increasing. There is very little of such practice, except counter prescribing by chemists and visits to non-resident quacks who have acquired a reputation.

Effect of such practice.—Inappreciable.

Gloucester City and County Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Not increasing ; practically non-existent, but (1) a certain amount of prescribing by chemists takes place ; (2) two herbalists practise ; (3) two unqualified dentists and a firm of artificial teeth makers practise.

Effect of such practice.—Not stated.

Gorton U.D.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Not stated whether increasing or not. There are a few herbalists' shops, and the chemists prescribe.

Effect of such practice.—No direct influence traceable.

Gosport and Alverstoke U.D.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Non-existent.

Gravesend Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Not increasing, chiefly confined to prescribing by chemists, which has existed for many years.

Effect of such practice.—Undoubtedly bad.

Great Yarmouth County Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Slightly increasing in amount.

Effect of such practice.—No definite information available.

Grimsby County Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—There is a large amount of such practice, but Medical Officer of Health does not think it is increasing largely. It is made up of (1) prescribing by chemists, who visit at patients' homes ; (2) herbalists, who are known to undertake serious surgical cases ; (3) bonesetters, who are resorted to by all classes ; (4) itinerant medicine vendors and so-called specialists, who treat all kinds of disease, extracting extortionate fees ; and (5) spectacle prescribing by chemists and opticians.

Effect of such practice :—Undoubtedly prejudicial. As regards medical cases, infectious disease is liable to be overlooked through faulty diagnosis, and serious diseases in their incipient stage are mistaken for slight ailments, entailing loss of time, which is likely to prove fatal, especially in regard to children. Lead poisoning has been caused through the administration of abortifacients. As regards surgical cases, instances quoted of disastrous results to individuals.

Guildford Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Not stated whether increasing or not, but prescribing by druggists the only form of such practice.

Effect of such practice.—Infectious disease wrongly diagnosed.

Halifax County Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Increasing, especially by herbalists, spiritualistic healers, procurers of abortion, cancer curers, prescribing chemists, &c.

Effect of such practice.—Undoubtedly injurious, through difficult to estimate. Specific instances known of injury and suffering produced by a cancer curer.

Handsworth (Staffs), U.D.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—No evidence of increase.

Effect of such practice.—Undoubtedly injurious. Outbreaks of infectious disease (usually scarlet fever) are often traced to undiagnosed cases treated by herbalists or chemists.

Hanley County Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Not increasing. Extent not stated.

Effect of such practice.—Not stated.

Harrogate Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Not increasing. It hardly exists and is diminishing. Two herbalists do very little work.

Effect of such practice.—Nil, but much harm is done by proprietary medicines.

Hartlepool Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Non-existent.

Hastings County Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Practically non-existent.

Effect of such practice.—Inappreciable.

Hebburn U.D.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Non-existent.

Hendon U.D.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Not increasing. Such practice is inappreciable in extent. Chemists only treat very minor complaints.

Hereford City.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Not increasing ; practically non-existent.

Heston and Isleworth U.D.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Non-existent.

Heywood Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Not increasing.

Effect of such practice.—Most injurious.

Hindley U.D.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—No resident unqualified practitioners practise, but neighbouring herbalists and bonesetter are resorted to. Use of abortifacients is thought to be on the increase.

Effect of such practice.—The amount is not great enough to cause appreciable effects.

Hornsey Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Not increasing as regards persons posing as doctors, *e.g.*, herbalists. A good deal of unqualified practice is carried on by chemists, unregistered dentists, and opticians.

Effect of such practice.—Serious harm is being done by the ignorant treatment of eye defects and diseases by opticians. Many cases known of inefficient treatment of diseases by chemists, whereby much time is lost, even when actual harm is not caused.

Hove Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Apparently non-existent.

Effect of such practice.—Inappreciable.

Huddersfield County Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—A large amount of such practice exists, which is more widely taken advantage of than a few years ago. (1) Chemists prescribe almost universally, some visiting patients. (2) Bonesetters do a large business. (3) Several herbalists practise. (4) Eye specialists and opticians, practising as oculists. One advertises extensively. (5) An ex-unqualified assistant practises. (6) Various quacks practise, one of whom diagnoses when mesmerised and prescribes in the absence of the patient, and another deals with venereal diseases. (7) Abortionists.

Effect of such practice.—Very harmful, but evidence of evil results is very difficult to obtain. Several cases quoted, including fatal diphtheria, cancer and other malignant diseases, fractures and tubercular bone diseases (by bone-setters). Birth-rate affected by practice (medical and surgical) of abortionists.

Hyde Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Such practice is undoubtedly increasing, and is very prevalent. Herbalists treat all kinds of illness, itinerant quacks sell nostrums in market, and consumption of widely advertised quack remedies is enormous among the poorer classes.

Effect of such practice.—Difficult to estimate, owing to reticence of victims; the practice is, however, mainly confined to trifling or chronic ailments.

Ilford U.D.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Non-existent, except a certain amount of prescribing by chemists.

Effect of such practice.—Not stated.

Ilkeston Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Chemists prescribe largely otherwise non-existent.

Effect of such practice.—Not stated.

Ince-in-Makerfield U.D.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—A large amount of practice is carried on by (1) extensively advertising bonesetters; (2) old women selling salves and ointments; (3) herbalists who treat all kinds of ailments; (4) prescribing chemists; (5) hygienic and other large advertising companies; (6) so-called phthisis and other special cures.

Effect of such practice.—Not usually so much dangerous as futile. Evidence of direct injury is difficult to obtain. Many of the complaints so treated are incurable, and most harm is done by loss of time in such diseases as cancer and other malignant growths, and phthisis.

Ipswich County Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Practice of (*a*) surgery by unqualified persons is limited to chiropody; of (*b*) medicine, to chemists, of which there is no evidence of increase.

Effect of such practice.—Amount of injury is difficult to assess. Want of recognition of ringworm or scabies has resulted in uncontrolled spread of these diseases. Diphtheria treated by chemist has proved fatal in two cases, and grave individual injury is known to have been caused to health.

Jarrow Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Not increasing.

Effect of such practice.—Nil.

Keighley Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Not increasing. Amount remains constant. Two herbalists keep open shop and visit patients. Itinerant quacks visit the markets in varying numbers.

Effect of such practice.—Apparently nil.

Kettering U.D.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Non-existent.

Kidderminster Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Non-existent, except a small amount of prescribing by chemists.

Effect of such practice.—Not stated.

King's Norton and Northfield U.D.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Non-existent.

Kingston-upon-Hull City and County Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Not increasing. Such practice is done by bonesetters, herbalists (many of whom supply abortifacients) and venereal disease specialists.

Effect of such practice.—Not stated.

Kingston-upon-Thames Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Non-existent.

Lancaster Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Not increasing. Practice is done by (1) chemists, the chief form; (2) one quack, who treats sores and wounds; (3) a travelling bonesetter; (4) a travelling "eye doctor."

Effect of such practice.—Not much harm done, except by (2) and (4). Cases of cancer rendered inoperable after treatment by (2).

Leamington Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Not increasing. Practice is done by chemists (prescribing) and two dentists.

Effect of such practice.—Cannot be stated.

Leeds City and County Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Apparently not increasing.

Effect of such practice.—Dangerous.

Leicester County Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Not increasing ; very little such practice.

Effect of such practice.—None observed.

Leigh Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Not increasing ; but there is a considerable amount by (1) one or two bonesetters ; (2) several herbalists ; (3) the majority of chemists ; (4) midwives who frequently treat babies whose mothers they have attended. This is rather lessening since Midwives Act.

Effect of such practice.—Detrimental, especially in the case of infectious disease, which may go unrecognised for several days.

Leyton U.D.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Non-existent, except prescribing by chemists in minor cases.

Effect of such practice.—Nil.

Lincoln City and County Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—A considerable amount exists including much prescribing by chemists (one visiting patients), manufacturers of salves and powders, herbalists, a procurer of abortion, and an advertising eye quack, who receives patients at a hotel.

Effect of such practice.—Many deplorable results quoted, in regard to practice by chemists, treatment of venereal disease, abortionists (lead poisoning), and eye diseases, in children and adults.

Liverpool City and County Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—No material change in amount during the last few years.

Effect of such practice.—Impossible to state, where so many factors are in operation.

Llanelly Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Extent not stated.

Longton Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Not increasing ; such practice has never been prevalent.

Effect of such practice.—Occasionally minor surgical troubles are wrongly treated, but the mortality of the district is not increased.

Loughborough Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Not increasing. Extent not stated.

Effect of such practice.—Inappreciable.

Lowestoft Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Such practice is enormous in extent. (1) All chemists prescribe. (2) Certain quacks treat venereal diseases. (3) Proprietary medicines taken in large quantities by the poor. (4) District Nursing Associations under the control of lay committees are sometimes apt to assume too great responsibilities. (5) Abortifacients are extensively used.

Extent of such practice.—Dangerous. Instance given of death following the taking of a well-known brand of kidney pills, and due to their excessive use. Measles treated by nurses, a medical man being consulted only on broncho-pneumonia supervening. Death due to taking of lead pills instanced.

Luton Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Not increasing. Extent not stated.

Effect of such practice.—Nil.

Macclesfield Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Increasing practice by prescribing chemists, district nurses (who are rapidly developing into unqualified practitioners), eye quacks, "rupture curers," "vibration specialists," &c.

Effect of such practice.—Detrimental, particularly in the case of infants.

Maidstone Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Increasing practice by one individual who has an extensive connection among the poor.

Effect of such practice.—No deleterious effects observed.

Manchester City and County Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Increasing as to (3) (4) and (5) below, but no marked increase generally. Practice by :—(1) herbalists, occasional isolated instances ; (2) Chemists, prescribing ; (3) suspected sale of abortifacients by some chemists and others, believed to be increasing ; (4) Bonesetters—increasing practice in treating injuries at football matches ; (5) Christian Scientists—said to be increasing.

Effect of such practice.—Injurious effect cannot be positively ascertained. There may be some effect from the use of diachylon, but it is one that is difficult to gauge.

Mansfield Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Apparently not increasing, but proprietary foods are more advertised than formerly. Practice by vendors of quack medicines, district nurses, chemists, and a cancer curer (non-resident).

Effect of such practice.—Dangerous, from the want of accurate diagnosis in early stages of disease. Infectious disease overlooked by nurses, smallpox and consumption (fatal) treated by chemists. Fatal case of cancer of lip treated by cancer curer.

Margate Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Not stated whether increasing or not. Most chemists prescribe for simple ailments and some extract teeth. There are also a few unqualified dentists.

Effect of such practice.—Ill effects are impossible to prove. Individually much suffering is probably caused.

Merthyr Tydfil County Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Not increasing, except by dentists, whose practice has increased considerably during last few years. Chemists have always done some prescribing and some supply spectacles. There are also a few herbalists, &c., bonesetters, and an optician.

Effect of such practice.—Isolated instances of mistakes by chemists and bonesetters noticed. School children are often found to be wearing unsuitable glasses.

Middlesbrough County Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—It is very considerable in extent, but there is no evidence of any recent increase.

Effect of such practice.—Undoubtedly very harmful.

Middleton Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Not increasing, but great numbers of residents consult quacks in Manchester.

Effect of such practice.—None known.

Morley Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Not increasing. (1) Large amount of prescribing done by chemists. (2) A few herbalists practise. (3) A branch of Christian Science Brethren. (4) Proprietary medicines.

Effect of such practice.—Difficult to state. Harm is undoubtedly done by failure to recognise grave diseases, and much valuable time is lost before skilled advice is obtained. More harm is done by self medication and administration to children of much advertised drugs, especially so-called teething powders and cough mixtures.

Mountain Ash U.D.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Non-existent.

Nelson Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Not increasing, very little such practice.

Effect of such practice.—Not stated.

Newcastle-upon-Tyne City and County Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Cannot be stated definitely as to whether increasing or not. There are several self-styled specialists, herbalists, bonesetters, and women professing to treat female disorders.

Effect of such practice.—Cannot be stated definitely.

Newport (Mon.) County Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Increasing. (1) Prescribing by chemists very prevalent and on the increase. (2) Tabloid medicines of all kinds extensively used. (3) Enormous trade carried on in nostrums and specific cures advertised in newspapers. (4) Much practice by a so-called cancer specialist. (5) Practice by bonesetters very common. (6) Opticians are very prevalent. (7) Electric specialists. (8) Phthisis specialists. (9) Use of abortifacients.

Effect of such practice.—Serious :—Infectious diseases (smallpox, scarlet fever, diphtheria and typhoid) treated, leading in some cases to extended infection. Evil results attributed to the taking of tabloid medicines. Cancer treated in both early and late stages causing much misery and pain, and destroying chances of recovery. Much evil caused by treatment of inflamed and tubercular joints by bonesetters. Unscientific principles employed by opticians are fraught with danger. Treatment by "specialists" is productive of much harm and even loss of life. Venereal disease ineffectively treated.

Northampton County Borough.

Extent of practice by unqalified persons.—Cannot be stated whether increasing or not. Much counter prescribing by chemists, a few herbalists, a bonesetter, who has a considerable practice, and numerous dentists practise. Sale of abortifacients is believed to be increasing.

Effect of such practice.—Cannot be stated.

Norwich City and County Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Not increasing.

Effect of such practice.—Not beneficial.

Nottingham City and County Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Increasing considerably within past few years. (1) Herbalists, considerable increase. (2) Chemists, most prescribe. (5) Bonesetters, several resident and non-resident.

(6) Midwives. (7) Nurses, some prescribe. (8) Electrical and other specialists, several visit the town. (9) Opticians and oculists, self styled. (10) Aurists, several visit, advertising in local papers. (11) Abortionists and sale of abortifacients prevalent. (12) Sale of proprietary medicines. (13) Miscellaneous quacks, such as obesity curers, institutions, chiropodists, &c., many of whom advertise largely.

Effect of such practice.—The actual amount of damage done is difficult to estimate, but the aggregate amount must be very great indeed. Infectious diseases wrongly diagnosed, leading to spread (*e.g.* smallpox). Much unnecessary pain and premature death caused by treatment of tumours and cancers. Eye diseases tuberculosis and other diseases wrongly diagnosed and inaccurately treated, involving disastrous results. Headache powders indiscriminately used, with injurious effects. Many deaths from use of abortifacients. Soothing syrups, often containing powerful drugs, are dangerous, and materially aid in increasing infantile mortality.

Nuneaton Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Much prescribing by chemists exists.

Effect of such practice.—A source of danger to the public.

Oldbury U.D.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—A good deal of counter prescribing by chemists exists ; one has a consulting room behind his shop, much used by women.

Effect of such practice.—Apparently little ill results.

Oldham County Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Practically non-existent.

Effect of such practice.—Nil.

Oxford City and County Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Not stated whether increasing or not. Such practice consists of prescribing by chemists, and advice given by voluntary health visitors and school teachers.

Effect of such practice.—Not stated.

Penge U.D.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Non-existent.

Peterborough City.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Not stated whether increasing or not. (1) Much prescribing by chemists. (2) Diachylon extensively used as an abortifacient.

Effect of such practice.—Several cases of severe plumbism have resulted from the use of diachylon. Except for this and sale of opium no deleterious effects noticed.

Plymouth County Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Non-existent.

Pontypridd U.D.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Not increasing. Five herbalists practise ; bonesetters visit weekly ; there are at least four firms of unqualified dentists, and quacks attend the bi-weekly markets.

Effect of such practice.—No data available, although miscarriages are suspected to be due to drugs supplied by quacks.

Poole Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Non-existent, except a large amount of prescribing by chemists, who also attend to small injuries.

Effect of such practice.—Inappreciable.

Portsmouth County Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Prescribing by chemists is widespread and increasing. Other forms are not increasing, except, perhaps, for a few bonesetters and abortionists.

Effect of such practice.—Prescribing by chemists has a serious bearing upon the health of the community, in regard to (1) sale of abortifacients, (2) ineffective treatment of venereal diseases, which are spread by this means, (3) infectious diseases, which are extensively treated, and (4) eye, ear, and skin diseases.

Preston County Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Not increasing; such practice does not prevail to any extent.

Radcliffe U.D.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Increasing. Extent not stated.
Effect of such practice.—No data available.

Ramsgate Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Not increasing, but there is a certain amount of such practice.
Effect of such practice.—Not noticeable.

Rawtenstall Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Not increasing. Extent not stated.
Effect of such practice.—Not traceable.

Reading County Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Not increasing. Extent not stated.
Effect of such practice.—Injurious effects not traceable; but instance given of treatment by chemist of smallpox, which was discovered before much mischief had been caused.

Reigate Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Such practice small in amount, but there is an increasing tendency for chemists to prescribe and carry out small surgical dressings.
Effect of such practice.—Instance given of scarlet fever overlooked by a chemist. Mistakes in connection with ringworm frequently arise.

Rhondda U.D.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Whether increasing is difficult to state, but apparently it is, as most of the twenty-six quacks now practising have been established within recent years. Practice by herbalists and botanic specialists, chemists, a bonesetter, an ex-dispenser and others. All give advice and prescribe medicine, and at least eight visit at patients' houses. Suspected abortionists (women garbed as nurses) visit the district.
Effect of such practice.—No figures available. Possible influence on birth rate of practice by abortionists.

Richmond (Surrey) Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Non-existent.

Rochdale County Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Not increasing. Extent not stated.

Effect of such practice.—Very little.

Rochester City.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Not increasing. Prescribing by chemists is the only form of such practice.

Rotherham County Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Not increasing. Prescribing by chemists and of ordinary simple remedies for babies by duly qualified midwives are practically the only forms of such practice.

Effect of such practice.—Practically nil.

Rowley Regis U.D.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Not increasing. Prescribing chemists are the chief offenders.

Effect of such practice.—Inappreciable.

St. Helen's (Lancs.) County Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Unqualified practice (1) consisting of bonâ fide transactions is slowly disappearing, but (2) that in which healing is not the object sought is increasing. Particularising :—(1) Non-resident bonesetters, itinerant herbalists and tooth extractors decreasing. Spectacle makers and sellers increasing owing to medical inspection of school children. Prescribing chemists do a considerable but declining business. (2) Practice of abortionists largely increasing. Treatment of venereal disease by chemists and non-resident "specialists." Hygienic institutes have recently increased in number. They supply literature and cheap drugs at extortionate prices.

Effect of such practice.—The most harmful results arise from the delay caused before advice is sought from a medical practitioner, *e.g.*, in cancer, phthisis, corneal ulcer, infectious and contagious diseases.

Salford County Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Not increasing. Many unqualified persons (chiefly chemists) practise, but their number is not increasing, and simple ailments only are commonly treated.

Effect of such practice.—Cannot be stated, but it is not thought to be important.

Salisbury City.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Not increasing. Prescribing by chemists, and providing of spectacles by these and by jewellers and opticians are referred to.

Effect of such practice.—Not important, but the providing of spectacles by unqualified persons is of questionable benefit.

Scarborough Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Not increasing. No unqualified persons resident, but bonesetters and an unqualified oculist and aurist visit the town.

Effect of such practice.—No data available.

Sheffield City and County Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Not increasing recently. Chemists prescribe almost universally for supposed minor ailments. Six other unqualified persons, male and female, are known to practise, all of whom visit patients. There are several abortionists. Sale of abortifacients widespread. Two ex-medical assistants practise.

Effect of such practice.—Deaths and illnesses are caused by abortionists and the use of abortifacients. The evil result of other forms of unqualified practice is difficult to estimate.

Shipley U.D.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Non-existent.

Shrewsbury Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Not increasing, excluding practice by prescribing chemists.

Effect of such practice.—Not apparent.

Smethwick County Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Little or no irregular practice beyond a considerable amount of counter prescribing by chemists.

Effect of such practice.—Ill-effects occasionally noticed.

Southampton County Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Cannot be definitely stated whether increasing or not, but diseases ranging from diarrhœa and ringworm in infants and children to syphilis in adults are extensively treated by unqualified persons, such as chemists, herbalists, and opticians.

Effect of such practice.—Infectious and venereal diseases are frequently spread through faulty diagnosis and treatment. In infantile diarrhœa, medical aid is commonly sought after such treatment when the infant is in a moribund condition.

Southend-on-Sea Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Non-existent, except much prescribing by chemists.

Effect of such practice.—Infectious disease (scarlet fever and diphtheria) wrongly diagnosed and treated. Treatment of ringworm and other contagious skin diseases in children has necessitated unusually long periods of absence from school.

Southport County Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Not increasing, very little such practice.

Effect of such practice.—Inappreciable.

South Shields County Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Cannot be stated whether increasing or not. There is a great deal of such practice by chemists, herbalists and "magnetic healers," and a certain amount of bonesetting.

Effect of such practice.—Cannot be stated.

Stafford Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Not stated whether increasing of not. Such practice limited to a large amount of prescribing by druggists, district nurses, and a dentist.

Effect of such practice.—Difficult to estimate, but irreparable harm is sometimes done.

Stalybridge Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Not increasing. Several herbalists, chemists, and itinerant medicine vendors practise.

Effect of such practice.—Cannot but be prejudicial.

Stockport County Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Not increasing. Extent not stated.

Effect of such practice.—No evidence available.

Stockton-on-Tees Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Not increasing. It is confined to a few bonesetters and herbalists.

Effect of such practice.—The use of proprietary medicines is more injurious than any other form of unqualified practice.

Stoke-upon-Trent Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Increasing. (1) All chemists prescribe freely, and are regularly consulted, even in the case of

infectious diseases. (2) A nurse keeps a small shop and visits patients. (3) A herbalist practises. (4) Advertisements of eye specialists and venereal disease specialists common.

Effect of such practice.—Efficient treatment of diseases, including infectious diseases, delayed by such practice. Drugs for unlawful purposes &c. are too readily obtainable.

Stretford U.D.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Not increasing. A few chemists may prescribe.

Effect of such practice.—No information available.

Sunderland County Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Increasing at an alarming rate by (1) Bonesetters—40 per cent. increase in last 10 years ; (2) Midwives—a new form of unqualified practice. Treat all diseases and have opened a club offering subscribers nursing, surgical and medical attendance ; (3) Chemists—a great abuse ; (4) so-called faith-healers, practice of great extent ; (5) Electro Masseurs—a new form of unqualified practice ; (6) Quack remedies, greatly increased.

Effect of such practice.—Permanent disablement in some cases through treatment by bonesetters. Complications, injury and disablement through treatment by chemists of, *e.g.* venereal diseases, abscesses. Sad results of faith-healers' practice known.

Swansea County Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Increasing, more particularly in the form of pseudo specialism.

Effect of such practice.—In many cases injurious, on account of (1) delay and loss of invaluable time in malignant diseases, early phthisis, &c. ; (2) danger accruing to life and limb from maltreatment in diseases of joints ; (3) permanent injury to eyesight by improper prescription of glasses, &c.

Swindon Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Non-existent, except prescribing by chemists.

Effect of such practice.—Not stated.

Swinton and Pendlebury U.D.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Practically non-existent.

Effect of such practice.—Inappreciable.

Taunton Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Not increasing—extent not stated.

Tipton U.D.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Decreasing. A small amount of counter prescribing by chemists exists, but nurses are now taking much of the work usually done by medical men.

Todmorden Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Non-existent.

Torquay Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Apparently non-existent.

Tottenham U.D.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Prescribing by chemists for minor ailments increasing. Otherwise not increasing.

Effect of such practice.—Such prescribing often conduces to the spread of infectious disease.

Tunbridge Wells Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Decreasing—extent not stated.

Effect of such practice.—Not stated.

Tunstall U.D.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Not stated whether increasing or not. Such practice is limited to a few herbalists and a prescribing chemist.

Effect of such practice.—No evidence of injurious results.

Twickenham U.D.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Prescribing by chemists largely increasing. Some do dental work, and other (minor) surgery, test eyes and supply lenses.

Effect of such practice.—Difficult to prove. Dangerous in regard to infantile diseases, *e.g.* diarrhœa.

Tynemouth County Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Cannot be stated whether increasing or not, but the majority of local practitioners are of opinion that such practice is not increasing. The following forms exist :—(1) Bonesetters —practice considerable ; (2) Herbalists ; (3) Chemists ; (4) Sale of proprietary medicines—increasing. (5) Various so-called specialists, including abortionists ; (6) Miscellaneous quacks.

Effect of such practice.—Diphtheria wrongly diagnosed. Dislocations not detected by bonesetters. Serious damage done by tampering with tuberculous joints. Generally speaking, undesirable and in some cases disastrous.

Wakefield City.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Such practice not considerable, except prescribing by chemists.

Effect of such practice.—Not unattended with risk. Spread of infectious diseases possible. Instance given of diphtheria wrongly diagnosed, proving fatal.

Wallasey U.D.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Non-existent.

Wallsend Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Non-existent, except a large amount of prescribing by chemists.

Effect of such practice.—Not stated.

Walsall County Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Non-existent.

Walthamstow U.D.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Increasing in regard to (1) Examination and treatment of eye affections and testing of vision by chemists and jewellers—enormous increase ; (2) Dentistry—an immense amount ; (3) Counter prescribing by chemists—an immense amount. (4) Treatment of skin affections by herbalists and others.

Effect of such practice.—No serious effects noticed, but treatment of ringworm and common skin affections in children ineffectual, causing serious loss in school attendance.

Warrington County Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—No proof of increase. Much practice by herbalists, and somewhat extensive sale of quack remedies. Such practice includes sale of abortifacients.

Effect of such practice.—Quack remedies and abortifacients cannot but be detrimental.

Waterloo with Seaforth U.D.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Non-existent.

Watford U.D.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—No such practice other than prescribing by chemists, which is not increasing.

Effect of such practice.—Nil.

Wednesbury Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Non-existent.

West Bromwich County Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—No appreciable increase. (1) Midwifery has drifted into the hands of the midwives; (2) much prescribing by chemists and sale of proprietary medicines; (3) three herbalists do considerable practice.

Effect of such practice.—No appreciable effects can be recorded.

West Ham County Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Contrary opinions as to whether increasing or not, expressed by local medical practitioners.

Effect of such practice.—No facts available, but counter prescribing is believed to do much harm.

West Hartlepool County Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Not increasing. Extent not stated.

Effect of such practice.—Nil.

Widnes Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Non-existent.

Wigan County Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Not increasing. Extent not stated.

Effect of such practice.—Not stated.

Willesden U.D.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Probably decreasing, but there is much prescribing by chemists. Other forms referred to :—(1) District nurses; (2) ambulance men; (3) midwives; (4) dentists; (5) advertised proprietary medicines and infants' foods.

Effect of such practice.—Scarlet fever overlooked by chemists and others, resulting in more or less serious epidemics. Numerous instances of harm quoted by local practitioners, in reference to all kinds of diseases.

Wimbledon Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Practically non-existent.

Winchester City.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Such practice is of very small dimensions. The chemists prescribe only in very minor ailments.

Effect of such practice.—Not stated.

Wolstanton United U.D.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Non-existent.

Wolverhampton County Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—No data available as to extent or as to increase, but there is undoubtedly a large amount of such practice.

Effect of such practice.—No data available, but it is obviously injurious to many persons.

Wood Green U.D.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Except that chemists prescribe spectacles for children, no such practice is known.

Effect of such practice.—Spectacles either useless or positively injurious.

Worcester City and County Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Is considerably increasing. Several herbalists practise and much prescribing is done by chemists, one of whom is alleged to visit patients. Extensive sale of abortifacients suspected.

Effect of such practice.—No direct evidence available.

Workington Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—No evidence of increase, but a fairly large number of chemists and herbalists prescribe freely. Bone-setters also do much practice.

Effect of such practice.—Difficult to determine.

Worthing Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Non-existent.

York City and County Borough.

Extent of practice by unqualified persons.—Not stated whether increasing or not. (1) At least one unqualified person practises medicine and surgery, dentistry and obstetrics ; (2) At least three unqualified persons treat defective eyesight, and one of these defective hearing.

Effect of such practice.—Infectious disease treated, causing much inconvenience to Medical Officer of Health. Children found on inspection to be suffering from effects of markedly unsuitable spectacles.

SCOTLAND.

MEMORANDUM ON UNQUALIFIED MEDICAL PRACTICE IN SCOTLAND.

It is well known that "the unrestricted practice of medicine and surgery by unqualified persons" is widespread in Scotland as elsewhere; but it is difficult to obtain precise information as to the facts. The limits of "Medicine and Surgery" are so vague; the boundaries between what is medical or surgical in the technical sense and what is "hygiene" are so constantly shifting; the increase of medical discussions and medical directions in the lay press has recently been so great; the frequent acceptance by the medical profession of ideas and methods first elaborated by "unqualified persons" is so striking,—that the difficulties of any inquiry into the nature and limits of "practice by unqualified persons" must be almost insuperable. But there are well-known classes of "unqualified practice." It is to these classes that the information now furnished by the Medical Officers of Health of Scotland mainly refers. These classes roughly are bone-setters, unqualified dentists, counter-prescribing chemists, eye and ear specialists; cancer-cure specialists; herbalists; vendors of proprietary medicines; prescribing clergymen and the like. In the reports nothing is said as to "diet specialists," or "massage establishments or practitioners." Both diet specialists and masseurs, although occasionally practising independently, act so frequently in concert with the regular medical practitioner that they cannot always be legitimately regarded as "unqualified persons" that practise medicine or surgery. It would, indeed, be difficult to say where any line is to be drawn between the "diet specialist" and the "medical practitioner." In any case these reports give us no information.

The questions put to the Medical Officers of Health were:—(1) whether the practice of medicine and surgery by unqualified persons is assuming larger proportions, and (2) whether such practice produces any effects on the public health. Such information as the Medical Officers of Health may normally acquire must be largely in the nature of hearsay; but as those officers are, in a great measure, independent of practice, they are less likely to exaggerate the facts in any locality. The details of these replies are given in the Appendix. Here we may draw attention to some leading features.

1. *Bone-setters.*

In Scotland, as elsewhere, there exists a long tradition of "bone-setting." In almost every populous locality, there is always some person with a reputation for "bone-setting." Indeed there are many hamlets and farms where the bone-setter is habitually consulted by many classes of people. In fact, the bone-setter is rather a survival of tradition than a deliberate creation of modern social demands. In many thinly populated and remote areas, he may be the only relatively "skilled" person in the locality.

In the reports by Medical Officers of Health, the bone-setter figures largely; but the details furnished are somewhat inadequate.

In one small town it is said "considerable harm done by bone-setters." In another "bone-setter carries on a considerable practice; joint troubles caused or aggravated by manipulations of bone-setter." In a rural area it is said "evil results follow the practice of bone-setters." In five small towns, it is said "No increase in number of bone-setters; but a large number of persons visit Glasgow to receive treatment from a firm of American practitioners calling themselves 'Osteopaths.'" In one large town and four burghs, it is said "bone-setters advertise themselves," a clear indication that their practice is well known and wide-spread. In other four small towns, it is said "Bone-setting is carried on; untoward results from time to time." In one County, with 20 small towns, it is said that there is "practically no such practice except in regard to bone-setting. The practice of bone-setting is injurious if not to public health at least to public welfare. The people are well informed as to the status of unqualified persons." In another small town, it is said "bone-setting not uncommon; as a rule no bad effects." In another town, it is said that "deaths have resulted in cases of tubercular joint disease treated by bone-setter." In still another small town, the bone-setter is one of the "chief offenders." In another town, there is said to be "an increase in number of bone-setters, harmful results follow." In yet another small town, it is said that "sometimes amputation has had to follow work of bone-setters." Almost everywhere, but particularly in the small towns, the bone-setter is to be found. His practice must be very large and the observation usually is that it is frequently attended with danger.

There seems to be no evidence that the bone-setters are increasing in number; but there is sufficient evidence that they are certainly not decreasing.

2. *Counter-Prescribing by Chemists.*

This is a region of practice where the medical practitioner is frequently able to obtain direct evidence. No doubt, the practice is widespread; but it is not all of one grade. When a client asks for a particular drug and further asks for direction as to its use, no druggist would hesitate to give such directions as might be necessary. In many cases, for example, the case of Mineral Waters, the doses are indicated on the bottles and all the druggist has to do is to draw attention to the fact if requested. A client may purchase a Seidlitz powder; he may request to be informed as to the best time to take it; he may ask for detailed directions as to the method of preparing it. From such relatively indifferent cases up to the detailed diagnosis of disease and special issuing of drugs, there is every variety of grade. In the reports by the Medical Officers of Health, there is no indication whatever as to what is involved by "Counter-prescribing by Chemists." Neither is there any indication as to specific evil results. Further, there is no indication as to how far medical practitioners themselves either act in association with druggists or themselves conduct a druggist shop. These are obviously matters for further inquiry.

Counter-prescribing by chemists cannot be put on precisely the same footing as bone-setting, because in certain specific respects the

druggists are "qualified persons" and the limits of legitimate dispensing are extremely difficult to fix. These facts probably account for the absence of any definite opinions that evil results follow counter-prescribing.

3. *Midwives.*

As was to be expected, the midwife is described as an unqualified person ; but here, even more than in the case of the bone-setter, we have a long tradition of practice,—a tradition so long and so powerful that it has, in most civilised countries, been rather accepted and regularised than suppressed. It is quite certain that "the qualified midwife," or trained nurse, is steadily gaining ground ; but there still remain many untrained midwives. These reports do not specify in any great degree the results of this kind of practice.

4. *Unqualified Dentists.*

There are some indications that unqualified dentists are on the increase. Both in the country districts and in the small towns, the unqualified dentists seem to have considerable vogue. In one small town, it is said that "unqualified dentists are rampant." In several others, unqualified dentists are bracketed with bone-setters. In some other towns, it is said that "unqualified dentists increasing." Although in the larger sense the unqualified dentist is to be regarded as an unqualified person engaged in "unrestricted practice of medicine and surgery," the range of his activity is strictly limited to such medical and surgical proceedings as are incidental to dentistry. "The qualification" does not mean precisely the same in "medicine" as in "dentistry." Accordingly, the prevalence of unqualified dentists does not have the same significance as the prevalence of other unqualified persons.

5. *Eye and Ear Specialists.*

In several small towns, "Eye and Ear specialists advertise in local papers." In some other small towns, it is said that "Eye and Ear specialists are common." But, with the exception of the few towns referred to, Eye and Ear specialists are not anywhere commented on. It appears, therefore, that the Eye and Ear specialist does not seriously encroach on the realm of medical or surgical practice proper. It is somewhat surprising that those classes of unqualified practice have not been more commented on in the reports ; since it is a well-known fact that many opticians habitually test the eyesight of all classes of persons and provide spectacles. Probably, however, the failure to comment on this practice largely arises from the fact that very few "general practitioners," particularly in the country, trouble themselves to test acuity of vision or to prescribe for any refraction defect discovered. The vast majority of the cases are absorbed by the Eye Dispensaries and the general hospitals. The normal onset of presbyopia is not regarded by the ordinary person as a disease and provision of spectacles for it is not usually regarded by the general practitioner as "medical or surgical practice." Secondly, this whole area of prescribing opticians is "on the borderland" of unqualified practice.

6. *Cancer Cure Specialists.*

There are a few instances of the "Cancer-Cure Specialists"; but the number of such specialists reported upon is very small.

7. *Rheumatic Specialists, Herbalists and Other Specialists.*

A few instances are referred to of persons professing a special rheumatic cure; practising as herbalists and the like; but, compared with the numbers of bone-setters, unqualified dentists, or midwives, the numbers referred to are very trifling.

8. *Proprietary Medicine Vendors.*

Apart from the sale of proprietary medicines by druggists, some references are made to special vendors of proprietary medicines. Here, also, the numbers reported are small. This is no doubt accounted for by the fact that proprietary medicines are to be obtained from qualified druggists. Probably, also, the free advertising of all forms of proprietary medicine reduces the attractions of proprietary medicine vending as a business.

Conclusion.

Although the information obtained from these reports is not large, it is confirmatory of information obtained from other sources and indicates that there is a fair ground for a more detailed inquiry.

SCOTLAND (SUMMARY).

UNQUALIFIED PRACTICE (SCOTLAND).

The 33 Counties report that there is no increase of unqualified practice, and no ill effects to the public health in the Counties, or in 129 Burghs; but in regard to other Burghs (76 in number), and 2 Districts, an increase of practice by unqualified dentists, bone-setters, eye and ear and cancer-cure specialists, &c., and in counter-prescribing by chemists, is reported to be prevalent, and in some cases mischievous.

The following is a Summary of the Replies which have been received :—

Question No. 1.—Whether the practice of medicine and surgery by unqualified persons is assuming larger proportions.

Question No. 2.—As to the effects produced by such practice on the public health.

Aberdeen County and 9 Burghs.

Question No. 1.—No.
Question No. 2.—Nil.

Aberdeen (Burgh).

Question No. 1.—Counter-prescribing by chemists.

Huntly (Burgh).

Question No. 1.—A bone-setter and several unqualified dentists practise, and quack medicine vendors ply their trade.
Question No. 2.—Considerable harm done by bone-setter.

Argyll County and 4 Burghs.

Question No. 1.—No.
Question No. 2.—Nil.

Campbeltown (Burgh).

Question No. 1.—Untrained women act as midwives.
Question No. 2.—Occasional bad results.

Lochgilphead (Burgh).

Question No. 1.—Unqualified dentists.

Ayr County and 11 Burghs.

General Remarks.—Untrained women act as midwives, and large quantities of quack medicines are sold.

Ayr (Burgh), Prestwick (Burgh.)

Question No. 1.—A large number of unqualified dentists.
Question No. 2.—Evil effects from work of unqualified dentists and sale of quack medicines.

Girvan (Burgh).

Question No. 1.—Counter-prescribing by chemists.
Question No. 2.—No ill effects.

Irvine (Burgh).

Question No. 1.—A great deal of unqualified practice; also counter-prescribing by chemists.
Question No. 2.—To a great extent a source of mischief.

Kilmarnock (Burgh).

Question No. 1.—A number of patients are treated by a clergyman in Glasgow for cancer, consumption, &c. Large quantities of proprietary medicines sold.
Question No. 2.—The effect produced on the cancer cases was to hasten their end. Public health not much affected. The pockets of the patients more affected than their health.
General Remarks.—Large amount of counter-prescribing by chemists who are alleged to sell spirits.

Banff County and 7 Burghs.

Question No. 1.—No.
Question No. 2.—Nil.

Aberlour (Burgh).

Question No. 1.—A bone-setter carries on a considerable practice and proprietary medicines are largely sold.
Question No. 2.—Joint troubles caused or aggravated by manipulations of bone-setter. Proprietary medicines do no harm.

Keith (Burgh).

Question No. 1.—Proprietary medicines sold.
Question No. 2.—Harmful results ensue.

Berwick County and 4 Burghs.

General Remarks.—Bone-setters and cancer-cure specialists are common, and injurious effects sometimes caused.

Greenlaw Division of Middle District of Berwickshire.

Question No. 1.—Unqualified practice is increasing.
Question No. 2.—Evil results follow practice of bone-setters.

Bute County and 2 Burghs.

Question No. 1.—No.
Question No. 2.—Nil.

Caithness County and 2 Burghs.

General Remarks.—Counter-prescribing by chemists only form of unqualified practice, and public health does not suffer therefrom.

Clackmannan County and 4 Burghs.

General Remarks.—Practically no such practice.

Dumbarton County and 3 Burghs.

Question No. 1.—No.
Question No. 2 —Nil.

Clydebank (Burgh).

Question No. 1.—Yes—by unqualified dentists and by dispensing chemists.
Question No 2.—Many persons suffer from such practice.
General Remarks.—Working classes cannot distinguish unqualified persons.

Dumbarton (Burgh.)

Question No. 1.—Three unqualified dentists practise.

Cove and Kilcreggan (Burgh).

General Remarks.—A rheumatic-cure "quack" commands a considerable patronage.

Dumfries County and 1 Burgh.

Question No. 1.—No.
Question No. 2.—Nil.

Dumfries (Burgh).

Question No. 1.—Unqualified dentists practise; and counter-prescribing by chemists.

Annan (Burgh). Langholm (Burgh). Lockerbie (Burgh). Moffat (Burgh). Sanquhar (Burgh).

Question No. 1.—No increase in number of bone-setters; unqualified dentists on increase; eye and ear specialists advertise in local papers; druggists prescribe for ocular defects; and counter-prescribing by chemists exceedingly common.
Question No. 2.—No sufficient data to estimate effect on public health.
General Remarks.—A large number of persons visit Glasgow to receive treatment from a firm of American practitioners calling themselves "osteopaths."

Edinburgh County and 4 Burghs.

General Remarks.—Bone-setters advertise themselves.

Edinburgh (Burgh).

Question No. 1.—Dispensary practice carried on by students preparing for examination.

Bonnyrigg (Burgh). Lasswade (Burgh). Leith (Burgh).

Question No. 1.—Counter-prescribing by chemists.

Elgin County and 4 Burghs.

Question No. 1.—No.
Question No. 2.—Nil.

Elgin (Burgh).

Question No. 1.—Bone-setting is carried on; also counter-prescribing by chemists.
Question No. 2.—Untoward results from time to time.

Forres (Burgh).

Question No. 1.—Counter-prescribing by chemists more prevalent; and practice of bone-setters.
Question No. 2.—Harmful in cases. Bad results.

Fife County and 20 Burghs.

Question No. 1.—Practically no such practice except in regard to bone-setting.
Question No. 2.—Practice of bone-setting is injurious, if not to public health, at least to public welfare.
General Remarks.—The people are well informed as to the status of unqualified persons.

Burntisland (Burgh).

Question No. 1.—Bone-setting not uncommon.
Question No. 2.—As a rule no bad effects.

Cowdenbeath (Burgh).

Question No. 1.—Prescribing by chemists, and itinerant vendors of quack medicines common.

Question No. 2.—Prescribing by chemists comparatively harmless.

Cupar (Burgh).

Question No. 1.—Practice of bone-setter.

Question No. 2.—Deaths have resulted in cases of tubercular joint disease treated by bone-setter.

Kirkcaldy (Burgh).

Question No. 1.—Chief offenders, a bone-setter and itinerant medicine vendors.

Leven (Burgh).

Question No. 1.—Unqualified dentists are common. Sale of *named* drugs.

Question No. 2.—Bad results from practice of unqualified dentist. Severe case of septicæmia resulting from such practice ended fatally.

Newburgh (Burgh).

Question No. 1.—Increase in number of bone-setters.

Question No. 2.—Harmful results follow.

Pittenweem (Burgh).

Question No. 1.—Unqualified dentists "rampant."

Tayport (Burgh).

Question No. 1.—Practice of bone-setters.

Question No. 2.—Sometimes amputation has had to follow work of bone-setters.

Forfar County and 4 Burghs.

Question No. 1.—No.

Question No. 2.—Nil.

Broughty Ferry (Burgh).

Question No. 1.—Counter-prescribing by chemists.

Carnoustie (Burgh).

Question No. 1.—Bone-setting, sale of poisonous specifics, and treatment of inebriety and allied conditions in unlicensed houses have come under notice.

Question No. 2.—Dangerous in certain cases.

Forfar (Burgh).

Question No. 1.—Counter-prescribing by chemists.

Question No. 2.—Dangerous in certain cases.

Monifieth (Burgh).

Question No. 1.—Unqualified dentists and bone-setters practise.

Question No. 2.—Unfortunate results sometimes occur.

Montrose (Burgh).

Question No. 1.—Counter-prescribing by chemists.

Haddington County and 6 Burghs.

Question No. 1.—No.

Question No. 2.—Nil.

North Berwick (Burgh).

Question No. 1.—Large and increasing sale of "quack" medicines. Certain amount of unqualified dental practice.

Question No. 2.—Detrimental effect on public health.

General Remarks.—A notorious "Hygienic Institute" has detrimental effect on public health.

Inverness County and 3 Burghs.

General Remarks.—Easier means of access from the South enables "quacks" to establish actual dates for local consultations.

Kincardine County and 4 Burghs.

Question No. 1.—No.
Question No. 2.—Nil.

Kinross County and 1 Burgh.

General Remarks.—"Quack" advertisements lead to much evil from a public health point of view.

Kirkcudbright County and 5 Burghs.

Question No. 1.—No.
Question No. 2.—Nil.

Maxwelltown (Burgh).

Question No. 1.—No increase in number of bone-setters. Unqualified dentists increasing. Eye and ear specialists common. Counter-prescribing by chemists who also prescribe for ocular defects.
Question No. 2.—No sufficient data to estimate effect on public health.
General Remarks.—A number of persons visit Glasgow to receive treatment from a firm of American practitioners calling themselves "osteopaths."

Lanark County and 5 Burghs.

Question No. 1.—No.
Question No. 2.—Nil.

Airdrie (Burgh).

Question No. 1.—Herbalists and itinerant medicine vendors not uncommon.
Question No. 2.—Bone-setters and "oculists" have done much harm.

Glasgow.

Question No. 1.—Increase in number of unqualified dentists. Various specialists, several herbalists, street corner physicians and other kinds of "quacks" practice. Also counter-prescribing by chemists.
Question No. 2.—Individuals suffer.

Hamilton (Burgh).

Question No. 1.—Increase in number of unqualified dentists, bone-setters and eye "specialists."
Question No 2.—Individuals suffer.

Motherwell (Burgh).

Question No. 1.—A slight increase of unqualified practice. Counter-prescribing by chemists, and advertising of quack medicines and medical wines.
Question No. 2.—Harmful effects produced.

Rutherglen (Burgh).

Question No. 2.—The effects produced by an "eye-specialist"—formerly a railway man—are said to be dangerous.

Wishaw (Burgh).

Question No. 1.—Increase in number of unqualified dentists; and counter-prescribing by chemists.

Linlithgow County and 5 Burghs.

General Remarks.—Bone-setters advertise themselves.

Bathgate (Burgh).

Question No. 1.—Two or three unqualified dentists. Bone-setters at a distance consulted.
Question No. 2.—Rather disastrous results at times.

Nairn County.

Question No. 1.—No.
Question No. 2.—Nil.

Nairn (Burgh).

Question No. 1.—Chemists are the only unqualified persons.

Orkney County.

Question No. 1.—No, but counter-prescribing by chemists.
Question No. 2.—Harmful in many cases.

Kirkwall (Burgh).

Question No. 1.—Unqualified practice on increase. Counter-prescribing by chemists, and use of proprietary medicines.
Question No. 2.—Detrimental to public health. Early stages of disease not recognized.

Stromness (Burgh).

Question No. 1.—No.
Question No. 2.—Infectious disease sometimes spread by incorrect diagnosis by unqualified persons.

Peebles County and 2 Burghs.

General Remarks.—Bone-setters advertise themselves.

Perth County and 2 Burghs.

Question No. 1.—No.
Question No. 2.—Nil.

Alyth (Burgh). Rattray (Burgh).

Question No. 1.—Bone-setters practise. Counter-prescribing by chemists common. Proprietary medicines much advertised.
Question No. 2.—Harmful results ensue.

Abernethy (Burgh). Perth (Burgh).

Question No. 1.—An increase of unqualified practice.
Question No. 2.—No effect.

Callander (Burgh). Doune (Burgh). Dunblane (Burgh).

Question No. 1.—Bone-setters and unqualified oculists practise.
Question No. 2.—Bad effects.

Aberfeldy (Burgh).

Question No. 1.—Bone-setters practise. Counter-prescribing by chemists common. Sale of proprietary medicines.
Question No. 2.—Detrimental to health.

Blairgowrie (Burgh).

Question No. 1.—Bone-setters on increase.
Question No. 2.—Harmful results in several cases.

Crieff (Burgh).

Question No. 1.—Counter-prescribing by chemists.
Question No. 2.—Effects not noticeable.

Renfrew County and 5 Burghs.

Question No. 1.—No.
Question No. 2.—Nil.

Greenock (Burgh).

Question No. 1.—Unqualified practice on increase, notably in number of unqualified dentists; eye specialists; herbalists; persons who treat female ailments; and counter-prescribing by chemists.
Question No. 2.—Harmful results.
General Remarks.—Many persons visit Glasgow to receive treatment from a firm of "osteopaths" (this form of practice is expected to increase) also from a clergyman who professes to cure cancer, &c. (Special Report by Medical Officer of Health.)

Paisley (Burgh).

Question No. 1.—Ten unqualified dentists.
General Remarks.—Glasgow "quacks" send circulars to Paisley.

Pollokshaws (Burgh).

Question No. 1.—A considerable amount of unqualified dental practice.

Ross and Cromarty County and 1 Burgh.

Question No. 1.—No—except in regard to counter-prescribing by chemists.
Question No. 2.—Nil.
General Remarks.—Proprietary medicine advertising should be put down.

Cromarty (Burgh). Dingwall (Burgh). Invergordon (Burgh).

Question No. 1.—Unqualified dentists practise. Druggists prescribe for any ailment. Bone-setters are decreasing.
Question No. 2.—Bone-setting injurious. Prescribing by chemists often has disastrous results. Advertisements as to remedies for female ailments most harmful.

Tain (Burgh).

Question No. 1.—Two unqualified dentists practise ; also counter-prescribing by chemists.

Stornoway (Burgh) (Lewis District).

Question No. 1.—Unqualified practice by native experts who, in cases of pneumonia, bleed the patients indiscriminately. Counter-prescribing by druggists. Unqualified practice by certain District Nurses, and by an ex-schoolmaster, who commands an extensive following.
Question No. 2.—Such practice causes patients to delay in sending for qualified assistance and thus valuable time is often lost. Practice fraught with considerable danger to public health.
General Remarks.—The credulous islanders are prone to be made a prey of by quacks.

Roxburgh County and 1 Burgh.

General Remarks.—Sale of proprietary drugs increasing ; and some bone-setters practise.

Hawick (Burgh). Kelso (Burgh).

Question No. 1.—Bone-setters and unqualified dentists practise. Counter-prescribing by chemists and sale of proprietary medicines.
Question No. 2.—Harm results from delay of unqualified persons in recognizing serious conditions.

Jedburgh (Burgh).

Question No. 1.—Bone-setting.
Question No. 2.—Practice detrimental.

Selkirk County and 2 Burghs.

General Remarks.—Sale of proprietary drugs increasing ; and some bone-setters practise.

Stirling County and 3 Burghs.

Question No. 1.—No.
Question No. 2.—Nil.

Falkirk (Burgh).

Question No. 2.—Bad effects from practice of bone-setters and unqualified oculists.

Grangemouth (Burgh).

Question No. 1.—No great increase in unqualified practice. A herbalist ; the "Hygienic Dental Society" and travelling quacks practise occasionally.
Question No. 2.—Serious results at times. Great harm from advertisements of cures for female ailments.

Kilsyth (Burgh).

Question No. 1.—Counter-prescribing by chemists.
Question No. 2.—Harmful to public health.

Sutherland County and 1 Burgh.

Question No. 1.—No.
Question No. 2.—Nil.

Wigtown County and 3 Burghs.

Question No. 1.—No.
Question No. 2.—Nil.

Stranraer (Burgh).

Question No. 1.—Unqualified practice by a nurse.
Question No. 2.—Public health injuriously affected.

Zetland County and 1 Burgh.

Question No. 1.—No.
Question No. 2.—Nil.

North Isles District.

Question No. 1.—Unqualified practice by "herbalist homœopaths," and by a "parson doctor" who administers drugs, draws teeth, and operates for tongues-ties, &c., and the sale of drugs such as laudanum, &c., by small shopkeepers.
Question No. 2.—Harmful effects.

IRELAND.

Memorandum on Unqualified Medical Practice in Ireland.

Unqualified practice is reported as existing to some extent within dispensary districts of 137 out of 158 Poor Law Unions in Ireland, and as increasing somewhat in dispensary districts of 38 of the unions. It does not appear to prevail within the area of 21 unions.

A summary of the replies received from the Medical Officers is subjoined, and shows that chemists are consulted extensively and prescribe for patients ; that they likewise perform minor surgical operations and engage in dentistry ; and that injurious results of their practice are often observed. Proprietary medicine are vended to various extents in a considerable number of towns and villages, and generally to the detriment of the patients. Bonesetters are employed in many districts and necessarily with bad results ; and also cancer curers, whose plasters are stated to inflict very great pain and to injure seriously some of the patients. Charmers of erysipelas, ringworm and sprains are mentioned, as well as herbalists, christian scientists, unqualified dentists, dental mechanics and "handy women" midwives. The particulars are given in detail in the summary.

IRELAND (Summary).

Unqualified Practice (Ireland).

Union.	No. of Dispensary Districts in Union.	Questions answered by the several Medical Officers of Health. (1.) Does the practice of medicine and surgery by unqualified persons exist in the Medical Officer's District?	(2.) If so, is the unqualified practice assuming larger proportions?	(3.) What are the effects produced by such practice on the public health?
(1.)	(2.)	(3.)	(4.)	(5.)
Abbeyleix ...	6	Yes, in three dispensary districts.	No.	Pharmaceutical chemists do a good deal of minor surgery and counter prescribing in two dispensary districts. Quacks and bonesetters practise with detrimental results in another dispensary district.
Antrim (including Ballyclare Urban District).	6	Yes, in four dispensary districts.	Yes	Charms for certain diseases are still resorted to in one dispensary district with injurious results. An unqualified man practises medicine and midwifery but without serious results to the public health.

Union.	No. of Dispensary Districts in Union.	Questions answered by the several Medical Officers of Health. (1.) Does the practice of medicine and surgery by unqualified persons exist in the Medical Officer's District?	(2.) If so, is the unqualified practice assuming larger proportions?	(3.) What are the effects produced by such practice on the public health?
(1.)	(2.)	(3.)	(4.)	(5.)
Antrim (including Ballyclare Urban District)—*cont.*				Chemists are consulted and prescribe and supply their own preparations, and also engage in dentistry and injure the pockets of their customers rather than their health.
Ardee ...	4	No.	—	—
Armagh (including Urban Districts of Armagh and Keady).	7	Yes, in five dispensary districts.	To some extent.	An extensive practice is carried on by chemists, their assistants and apprentices, with decidedly injurious results. A great many charms are still practised but without much effect. Quite a trade is done through the post with vendors of quack remedies. The employment of unqualified dentists is increasing in one dispensary district.
Athlone (including Urban District of Athlone).	6	Yes, in two dispensary districts.	No.	Effects of practice by cancer curer and pharmaceutical chemist are very deleterious.
Athy (including Urban District of Athy).	6	Yes, in three dispensary districts.	Yes.	Bonesetters practise to some extent. Chemists prescribe for all kinds of diseases, and thereby cause pain, suffering and prolonged illness to the patients, and increased mortality, more especially amongst infants.
Bailieborough.	4	Yes, in two dispensary districts.	Yes, in one district.	A bonesetter and some charmers practise without any marked ill effects.
Ballina (including Urban District of Ballina).	2	Yes, in one dispensary district.	No.	Chemists and their assistants prescribe. Bonesetting is practised, with disastrous results in a recent case.
Ballinasloe (including Urban District of Ballinasloe).	6	Yes, in four dispensary districts.	No, rather decreasing.	A little bonesetting and prescribing by chemists is practised with no apparent ill effects. Detrimental to the qualified practitioner.

Union.	No. of Dispensary Districts in Union.	Questions answered by the several Medical Officers of Health.		
		(1.) Does the practice of medicine and surgery by unqualified persons exist in the Medical Officer's District?	(2.) If so, is the unqualified practice assuming larger proportions?	(3.) What are the effects produced by such practice on the public health?
(1.)	(2.)	(3.)	(4.)	(5.)
Ballinrobe...	3	Yes.	No.	Bonesetters and cancer curers practise. Dangerous results have followed the use of drugs and plasters prescribed by chemists. Hopeless torture and one case of death have resulted from the use of "cancer plasters." A tramp claiming medical knowledge caused a death in this Union about three years ago by prescribing for an anæmic girl. He was tried, convicted, and sentenced to two years' imprisonment.
Ballycastle	3	No.	—	—
Ballymahon	3	Yes, in two dispensary districts.	No.	Effects are injurious to the public health.
Ballymena (including Urban District of Ballymena).	8	Yes, in four dispensary districts.	Increasing in one dispensary district.	Effects harmful. (1) A correct diagnosis is not made, and therefore correct treatment is not carried out, and (2) a properly equipped medical man is not called in until death of patient is imminent. There is a large trade in proprietary medicines and cancer plasters. Charms are employed. Travelling teeth extractors cause much suffering.
Ballymoney (including Urban Districts of Ballymoney and Portrush).	5	Yes, to a very slight extent in four dispensary districts.	No.	Charms for erysipelas are practised with no very marked results. One case of puerperal septicaemia was caused by an unqualified midwife. A ringworm curer almost caused death in one case and his practice has very bad effects.
Ballyshannon.	5	Yes, in one dispensary district.	—	Chemists prescribe medicine, extract teeth and put in artificial ones and prescribe and supply spectacles. The spectacle quack is doing a great deal of harm.

Union.	No. of Dispensary Districts in Union.	Questions answered by the several Medical Officers of Health.		
		(1.) Does the practice of medicine and surgery by unqualified persons exist in the Medical Officer's District?	(2.) If so, is the unqualified practice assuming larger proportions?	(3.) What are the effects produced by such practice on the public health?
(1.)	(2.)	(3.)	(4.)	(5.)
Ballyvaughan.	1	No.	—	—
Balrothery	6	Yes, in two dispensary districts.	No.	Bonesetters practise to some extent and often cause serious deformity.
Baltinglass	5	Yes, in three dispensary districts.	Yes, in one dispensary district.	Bonesetters and unqualified midwives cause much suffering.
Banbridge (including Urban Districts of Banbridge, Dromore and Tanderagee).	6	Yes, in two dispensary districts.	No.	Chemists prescribe. Medical Officer was not consulted in epithelioma case until disease was too far advanced for operation.
Bandon ...	5	Yes, in one dispensary district to a large extent.	—	Chemists' unqualified assistants prescribe and the poorer classes are imposed upon, and suffer physically and financially.
Bantry ...	4	Yes, in one dispensary district, and is increasing.	—	Not stated.
Bawnboy ...	5	Yes, in four dispensary districts.	No, diminishing.	Prescribing is practised to a slight extent by registered druggists. Much harm is done by cures for cancer and consumption, and cures are also resorted to for sprain, "rising the palate," "lifting the spool of the breast." The effects are that patients often postpone applying for skilled aid until the disease is beyond control.
Belfast (including the County Borough of Belfast and Urban District of Holywood).	3 (16 Medical Officers).	Yes, in a few sub-districts.	—	Counter prescribing by chemists reported, also the practice of unqualified dentists and a herbalist. A little midwifery practice by "handy women."

Union.	No. of Dispensary Districts in Union.	Questions answered by the several Medical Officers of Health.		
		(1.) Does the practice of medicine and surgery by unqualified persons exist in the Medical Officer's District?	(2.) If so, is the unqualified practice assuming larger proportions?	(3.) What are the effects produced by such practice on the public health?
(1.)	(2.)	(3.)	(4.)	(5.)
Belmullet ...	3	Yes, in two dispensary districts.	Yes, in one dispensary district only.	Effects in one district are detrimental, but in the other district no harm has been done in any case, whereas in two instances the result was decidedly good.
Birr (including the Urban District of Birr).	6	Yes, in one dispensary district.	No.	The effects of the treatment of skin diseases by unqualified persons are those usually seen. Bonesetters and ringworm curers are employed in the dispensary district.
Borrisokane	3	Yes, in two dispensary districts.	Yes, in one dispensary district.	Sometimes bad, especially in the case of diseased bones, which are treated as erysipelas, and septic wounds.
Boyle ...	7	Yes, in two dispensary districts.	To some extent.	The effects on the public health are detrimental, especially in the cases of self-treatment by secret remedies advertised in the public press.
Caherciveen	5	Yes, in two dispensary districts.	No.	Chemists practise indiscriminately. Injury to health, advance of disease, and indirectly death, caused by useless and often noxious drugs. The disease is often incurable by the time it is observed by the medical practitioner.
Callan ...	4	Yes, in two dispensary districts.	No, dying out.	Bonesetters and cancer curers have almost ceased to practise. Chemists prescribe.
Carlow (including Urban District of Carlow).	9	Yes, in five dispensary districts.	—	The bonesetter is very much consulted, and does considerable harm. Chemists prescribe and also act as dentists. Handy women practise medicine to a limited extent, and attend midwifery cases.
Carrickmacross (including the Urban District of Carrickmacross).	3	Yes.	Yes.	The effects are most detrimental. Chemists and druggists prescribe for all classes of diseases, and practise dentistry. Disease charmers and bonesetters are also very prevalent, and cause much suffering and deformity. Midwifery cases are attended by unqualified midwives.

Union.	No. of Dispensary Districts in Union.	Questions answered by the several Medical Officers of Health.		
		(1.) Does the practice of medicine and surgery by unqualified persons exist in the Medical Officer's District?	(2.) If so, is the unqualified practice assuming larger proportions?	(3.) What are the effects produced by such practice on the public health?
(1.)	(2.)	(3.)	(4.)	(5.)
Carrick-on-Shannon.	3	No.	No.	Midwifery cases are attended by unqualified women in one dispensary district.
Carrick-on-Suir (including the Urban District of Carrick-on-Suir).	6	Yes.	No.	Cancer curers, "herbalists," who dispense medicine for internal use, and bonesetters have a large practice.
Cashel (including Urban District of Cashel).	5	Yes.	No (decreasing).	Bonesetters are employed, and there is some unqualified medical practice, partly owing to the desire to obtain cheap attendance, and partly to crass ignorance.
Castlebar (including Urban District of Castlebar).	3	Yes, in one dispensary district.	No.	Chemists prescribe for patients, and exhaust the category of proprietary medicines before a qualified medical man is employed. Bonesetters cause extreme torture, deformities, and, in many cases, the loss of limbs. Head measurers exist, and treatment by spraining thread is practised. Handy women act as midwives, and cause unnecessary torture, and qualified maternity nurses endanger the lives of patients often by delay in sending for medical aid.
Castleblayney (including Urban District of Castleblayney).	6	Yes.	Increasing to an alarming extent in two districts.	Erysipelas is usually treated by means of a "charm" or "cure." The effects on the public health of the unqualified practice are stated to be most deleterious in one dispensary district.
Castlecomer	3	No.	—	—
Castlederg...	3	No.	—	Abundance of qualified men in the district.

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Castlerea ...	5	Yes.	No.	Chemists prescribe. Bonesetters cause undue suffering, permanent deformity, and impaired use of limbs. Unqualified midwives cause much suffering, impaired health, and, not unfrequently, death of mothers and infants, and one medical officer urges that legislation is needed to prevent their employment.
Castletown	2	No.	No.	Unqualified midwives practise in the remote parts of one of the dispensary districts.
Cavan (including Urban Districts of Belturbet and Cavan).	8	Yes, in five dispensary districts.	Yes.	A hotel keeper vends a "cure" for consumption which is of no benefit to the patients. Chemists prescribe over the counter, and also supply badly fitting useless teeth, which are dangerous in many ways. Bonesetters, cancer and erysipelas curers, persons claiming to be able to treat heart fever, lift the spool of the breast, cure infantile dysentery, and remove lumps, are employed, and also unqualified midwives. The sale of proprietary medicines does much harm, and prevents people seeking medical aid in time.
Celbridge ...	5	No.	—	A medical officer stated that he knew of a few cancer patients consulting unqualified practitioners in Dublin.
Claremorris	3	Yes, in two dispensary districts.	Yes.	Proprietary medicines are sold without restriction, and there has been an increase in small towns in the number of druggists. All kinds of diseases, &c., are treated by unqualified persons, who, in cases of fractured wounds, cause serious deformity and disablement, and in medical cases allow the disease to go too far before a medical man is requisitioned. Unqualified midwives attend cases in remote districts, very often with fatal consequences.

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Clifden ...	3	No.	—	—
Clogheen ...	3	Yes, in one dispensary district.	No.	Chemists prescribe, and the bonesetter is employed. The unqualified midwife is a grave public danger, and her practice should be prohibited under the severest penalties.
Clogher ...	4	Yes, in two dispensary districts.	No.	Chemists prescribe and act as dentists.
Clonakilty (including Urban District of Clonakilty).	3	Yes, in two dispensary districts.	—	Bonesetters and cancer curers are employed. Proprietary medicines are sold. A chemist prescribes and uses the stethoscope and thermometer. Handy women practise midwifery, sometimes with fatal results. Many persons seek advice for their ailments through the columns of newspapers.
Clones (including Clones Urban District).	3	Yes, to a limited extent in medicine.	—	—
Clonmel (including Clonmel Borough).	7	Yes.	Yes, in one dispensary district.	The practice of employing bonesetters and unqualified midwives is decreasing. Chemists prescribe to a large extent, but with no apparent evil effects, except the loss to legitimate practitioners.
Coleraine (including the Urban District of Coleraine).	6	Yes, in two dispensary districts.	No.	A cancer curer and a "herbalist" practise, but do little harm or good. The greatest evil is the unrestricted advertising in newspapers and journals of quack medicines, pills and lotions.
Cookstown (including Cookstown Urban District).	4	Yes, in one dispensary district.	No.	Chemists vend proprietary medicines. Charms for erysipelas and cures for cancer are employed.

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Cootehill (including Cootehill Urban District).	5	Yes, in four dispensary districts.	Yes.	Unqualified persons including chemists treat cases. A good deal of minor surgery and prescribing with injurious results takes place, and there is a large increase in unqualified dental practice.
Cork (including Cork County Borough & Queenstown Urban District).	12	Yes, in two of the Rural dispensary districts.	No.	A bonesetter and a cancer curer, who treats cases of lupus, practise.
Corrofin ...	1	Yes.	No, decreasing.	"Curers" of liver diseases and ulcers, and a bonesetter practise and cause an amount of suffering, and sometimes permanent injury to the victims. Proprietary medicines and appliances are sold to a large extent.
Croom ...	3	Yes, in one dispensary district.	No.	Chemists prescribe, but only for trivial complaints. Bonesetters treat fractures and dislocations, often causing deplorable results.
Delvin ...	3	Yes, in one dispensary district.	No, decreasing.	A cancer curer is employed with most injurious results.
Dingle ...	4	Yes, in one dispensary district.	No.	Unqualified women attend midwifery cases, and often cause puerperal fever. Curers of bone disease and eczema are employed, but only to a slight extent.
Donegal ...	5	Yes, in one dispensary district.	No.	Minor surgical operations are performed, and prescribing is carried on by unqualified men, with most injurious results.
Downpatrick	7	Yes, in five dispensary districts.	No.	Bonesetters, charmers and persons who attempt to cure cancer, scrofula, eye affections, and erysipelas exist, and do considerable damage. Chemists prescribe and unqualified dentists also practise.

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Drogheda (including the Borough of Drogheda).	5	Yes.	No.	Bonesetters cause much suffering, as do also unqualified midwives. Cancer curers practise to a limited extent, and there are some unqualified dentists.
Dromore West.	3	Yes, in one district.	No.	Midwife stated to have treated cases other than maternity, with bad results in two instances.
North Dublin (including northern side of Dublin County Borough).	2 (13 Medical Officers.)	Yes, in City sub-districts.	Yes.	Chemists, druggists, and their assistants prescribe for all sorts of diseases, with decidedly injurious results. There is an increasing tendency on the part of the public to "self-medication" as a result of the introduction of the tabloid system. Tabloids, whether potent or harmless, are purchased from chemists. An Indian oculist treats affections of the eyes and rendered one case incurable. A very slight practice is carried on by cancer curers, herbalists, corn curers, and unqualified dentists.
South Dublin (including southern side of Dublin County Borough and Pembroke and Rathmines and Rathgar Urban Districts).	6 (16 Medical Officers.)	Yes, in City sub-districts.	—	Chemists prescribe to a large extent.
Dundalk (including Dundalk Urban District).	5	Yes, to a small extent in one dispensary district.	No.	A bonesetter also employed.
Dunfanaghy	3	Yes, in one dispensary district.	No.	A shopkeeper in Dunfanaghy sells and prescribes some drugs, and applies acids for the cure of ringworm, often to the disfiguration of the patient.

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Dungannon (including Dungannon Urban District).	5	Yes, in one dispensary district.	No (decreasing).	Much suffering and some deaths were caused a few years back through the application of arsenical plasters by a cancer curer. The man is now dead. Charms for sprains, erysipelas, and whitlows are practised.
Dungarvan (including Dungarvan Urban District).	4	Yes, in two dispensary districts.	No (decreasing).	The unqualified practice is now confined to bonesetters, and their work has injurious effects on the public health.
Dunmanway	3	Yes, in two dispensary districts.	No.	Bonesetters cause some cripples. A chemist dresses wounds and affords medical advice.
Dunshaughlin.	3	No.	No.	Persons from one of the dispensary districts consult a cancer curer resident outside the Union.
Edenderry...	7	Yes, in one dispensary district.	No.	A cancer curer practises, and also bonesetter, and persons who treat bustions, whitlows, jaundice, scurvy and skin diseases. Suffering and injury to bones are often the result of the treatment given by the bonesetter. The business of the cancer curer extends over three or four counties and is increasing.
Ennis (including Ennis Urban District).	4	Yes, in two dispensary districts.	Yes.	The result of the unqualified practice is grievous bodily suffering with subsequent disfigurements. Unqualified dental practice is extending in one dispensary district.
Enniscorthy (including Enniscorthy Urban District).	6	Yes, in four dispensary districts.	No.	Charmers of cancer, erysipelas, farcy, fractures, dislocations, injuries of bones, darts (whitlows), scurvy, skin diseases, and eye diseases are consulted. Serious effects follow in many cases. The advertisement and sale of proprietary medicines is reported and also the distribution of objectionable leaflets through the post in open envelopes marked outside "For medical men only." Chemists also prescribe for patients.

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Enniskillen (including Enniskillen Urban District).	7	Yes, in two dispensary districts to a slight extent.	No, declining.	Decoctions of herbs, castor oil and epsom salts are prescribed.
Ennistymon	3	Yes, in one dispensary district.	No, declining.	The unqualified practice exists only to a slight extent.
Fermoy (including Fermoy Urban District).	5	Yes, in one dispensary district.	No.	No evil effect to public health has developed.
Galway (including Galway Urban District).	5	Yes, in three dispensary districts.	No.	Bonesetters are employed and proprietary medicines are bought.
Glennamaddy.	3	Yes, in two dispensary districts.	No.	Sad effects in individuals follow the application of a cancer cure; ringworm is treated by "charm healers," whose chief remedy is unsalted butter. The initial head ache of typhoid is often ministered to by "charmers" who thus give the infection time to spread.
Glenties ...	6	Yes.	—	Sick people are stated to be attended in one dispensary district by nurses, and the results are injurious. An unqualified dentist obtains a good practice. One medical officer reported that it is customary for druggists to supply grocers and publicans with prepared mixtures for coughs and other complaints.
Gorey ...	4	Yes, in three dispensary districts.	No.	Bonesetters are employed.
Gort ...	3	Yes, in one dispensary district.	No, decreasing rapidly.	A cancer curer, bonesetter, charmer, palate lifter and some other specialists exist but do little harm.

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Granard (including Granard Urban District).	9	Yes, in three dispensary districts.	No.	Unqualified women attend midwifery cases with injurious results. Bonesetters often injure limbs, and the practice of a cancer curer, besides being a fraud, occasions delay in having the disease treated by a medical man. A woman keeps a drug hall and probably prescribes medicine, but is not qualified.
Inishowen ...	5	Yes, in one dispensary district.	No.	Bonesetters and cancer curers practise and also an unqualified dentist.
Irvinestown	4	Yes.	Yes.	The effects of the unqualified practice are stated to be very injurious. Patients are often permanently injured and sometimes death is the result of the treatment.
Kanturk ...	4	No.	No.	One medical officer reported that a bonesetter living outside his dispensary district was consulted but had not a large practice.
Kells (including Kells Urban District).	4	No.	No.	Unqualified midwives employed to some extent in one dispensary district.
Kenmare ...	4	Yes.	Yes.	Unqualified midwives, bonesetters, and clergymen are employed and proprietary medicines are largely sold. Two medical officers complained that their incomes have diminished.
Kilkeel ...	3	Yes, in two dispensary districts.	Yes.	Unqualified dentists visit the district and treat patients using cocaine and other dangerous drugs. Unqualified midwives, cancer curers, who apply arsenical plasters, and charmers, who treat erysipelas and scrofula, are employed. Drug vendors prescribe and a large quantity of often harmful and always overpriced proprietary medicines is used.

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Kilkenny (including the Borough of Kilkenny).	5	Yes, in one dispensary district.	Yes.	The effects of the unqualified practice are disastrous.
Killadysert	2	Yes.	No.	Bonesetters are employed.
Killala ...	2	No.	—	—
Killarney (including Killarney Urban District).	5	Yes.	Yes, in two districts.	The effects of the unqualified practice are often serious, besides the delay in getting competent medical advice. Unqualified midwives and bonesetters are employed and chemists prescribe.
Kilmacthomas.	2	—	—	—
Kilmallock	6	Yes, in two districts.	No.	Chemists and druggists prescribe largely for patients with grave results. The bonesetter is extensively employed. Nurses treat ulcers, wounds, and rheumatic pains.
Kilrush (including Kilrush Urban District).	5	Yes, in two districts.	Yes.	Chemists prescribe. Bonesetters work much mischief and often cause by their treatment shortened and deformed limbs.
Kinsale (including Kinsale Urban District).	5	Yes, in one dispensary district.	No.	The dressing of a wound on a finger caused serious complications and resulted in amputation. Bonesetter practises.
Larne (including Carrickfergus and Larne Urban Districts).	5	Yes, in one dispensary district.	No.	The sale of proprietary medicines is reported.
Letterkenny (including Letterkenny Urban District).	3	Yes, in one dispensary district.	No	A few persons treat cases of cancer with uncertain results. Chemists prescribe.

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Limavady (including Limavady Urban District).	5	Yes, in one dispensary district.	Yes.	A number of unqualified persons treat all classes of diseases, compound medicines, extract teeth and perform minor operations The results are very serious. Several unqualified dentists practise.
Limerick (including Limerick County Borough).	8	Yes, in two of the rural dispensary districts.	—	Patients sometimes delay, owing to unqualified treatment, seeking qualified medical aid until it is too late for successful treatment. The district midwife often exceeds her own sphere and engages in general nursing. Unqualified midwives are still employed.
Lisburn (including Lisburn Urban District).	9	Yes, in three dispensary districts.	No.	The cancer, whitlow, and erysipelas curers are employed with injurious consequences. A good many confinement cases are attended by "handy women." Dental mechanics practise dentistry.
Lismore ...	4	Yes, in three dispensary districts.	No.	Bonesetters are employed and the result is often deformity of limbs. Chemists prescribe to a slight extent and undertake minor surgery and extract teeth and engage in dentistry.
Lisnaskea ...	4	Yes, in three dispensary districts.	Yes.	Cures of whitlow, ringworm, and erysipelas are employed and poisonous plasters, containing an excess of arsenic, for cancer. Proprietary medicines are widely advertised in newspapers and through the post, and are purchased.
Listowel (including Listowel Urban District).	7	Yes, in one dispensary district.	Increasing in the district.	The effects of the practice are that the medical man is not requisitioned in time. Unqualified women engage in midwifery to a large extent with much danger to the public health.

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Londonderry (including Londonderry County Borough).	7	Yes, in three districts.	No.	Bonesetters are employed. Chemists prescribe for patients and sell proprietary medicines.
Longford (including Longford Urban District).	3	Yes, in two dispensary districts.	No.	Medicine is practised. A handy woman attends midwifery cases.
Loughrea ...	4	No.	No.	Toothache and minor ailments are treated.
Lurgan (including Urban Districts of Lurgan and Portadown).	6	Yes, in two dispensary districts.	Yes.	The effects of unqualified practice have occasionally been disastrous. An American osteopath recently paid a long visit to the locality and reaped a rich harvest.
Macroom (including Macroom Urban District).	5	Yes, in two dispensary districts.	No.	Bonesetters and quacks are employed. Doctors are at a loss in regard to fees.
Magherafelt	5	Yes, in three dispensary districts.	No, decreasing.	Cancer curers work havoc on the lips and faces of patients to whom they apply caustic plasters, and the treatment afforded by whitlow curers has disastrous results. An unqualified man used to attend midwifery cases and do much harm.
Mallow (including Mallow Urban District).	6	Yes, in two dispensary districts.	—	The sale of proprietary nostrums is largely on the increase.
Manorhamilton.	4	Yes, in one dispensary district.	No.	A chemist treats cases with serious results.

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Midleton (including Midleton Urban District).	5	Yes, in one dispensary district to a slight extent.	No (disappearing).	Unqualified practice confined to application of healing plasters and bonesetting by two women.
Milford ...	5	Yes, in two dispensary districts.	No.	The effects of the practice of the cancer curers are often injurious. Bonesetters are also employed and unqualified women who do not understand antiseptics attend midwifery cases.
Millstreet ...	2	No.	—	—
Mitchelstown.	4	Yes.	No.	Bonesetters treat fractures and dislocations with injurious results. Chemists engage in medical practice. Quacks and proprietary medicines rob the public, and their advertisements should be forbidden.
Mohill ...	4	Yes, in one dispensary district.	Yes.	Chemists and druggists sell all varieties of drugs, and prescribe, compound, and supply medicines. Cancer and whitlow curers are employed.
Monaghan (including Monaghan Urban District).	5	Yes, in three dispensary districts.	No.	Cancer curers cause much suffering and cures for ringworm have often serious effects. Chemists prescribe and treat minor surgical cases. Comparatively large sums are spent by people almost destitute on proprietary medicines for the cure of consumption.
Mount Bellew.	2	No.	—	—
Mountmelick.	8	Yes, in three dispensary districts.	No.	Chemists prescribe and the results are seldom to the advantage of the patients. Bonesetters are employed and also cancer and erysipelas curers.
Mullingar ...	7	Yes, in four districts.	Increasing in one dispensary district.	The effects are injurious. More or less disability is the result of bones and joints being badly set by bonesetters.

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Naas (including Naas Urban District).	9	Yes, to a slight extent in two districts.	No (decreasing).	Bonesetters and cancer curers are sometimes employed.
Navan (including Navan Urban District).	3	Yes, in two dispensary districts.	No (decreasing).	Bonesetters and cancer curers are consulted with baneful results. Violent inflammation was caused by bonesetter treating tubercular ankle joint as dislocation.
Nenagh (including Nenagh Urban District).	5	Yes, in three dispensary districts.	Yes.	Bonesetters and a skull doctor do much harm to the patients and also to qualified medical men.
Newcastle ...	5	Yes, slightly in three dispensary districts.	No.	Some bonesetting—in one district confined to simple fractures.
New Ross (including New Ross Urban District).	6	Yes, in four dispensary districts.	No.	Cancer and erysipelas curers, bonesetters and unqualified midwives do much harm.
Newry (including Urban Districts of Newry and Warrenpoint).	10	Yes, in three dispensary districts to a small extent.	No.	Unqualified midwives are employed. Chemists prescribe and proprietary medicines are purchased.
Newtownards (including Bangor, Donaghadee and Newtownards Urban Districts).	6	Yes, in three dispensary districts.	Yes.	Chemists prescribe and unqualified dentists and midwives also practise. Cancer and erysipelas curers are not much employed. The sale of proprietary medicines is a grave danger to the public.
Oldcastle ...	4	Yes, in two dispensary districts.	No.	The trade of the quack is followed by many deaths which are hushed up to avoid blame being attached to the relatives of the deceased. Cancer curers and many like specialists are employed and also bonesetters. The use of proprietary medicines is one of the greatest evils.

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Omagh (including Omagh Urban District).	6	Yes, in two dispensary districts.	Yes.	Chemists prescribe causing injury to health and sometimes death of patients, especially children.
Oughterard	3	Yes, in two dispensary districts to a slight extent.	No.	Bonesetters cause an occasional deformed limb, and unqualified midwives are often responsible for puerperal sepsis.
Portumna ...	2	No.	—	—
Rathdown (including Urban Districts of Blackrock, Bray, Dalkey, Killiney and Ballybrack, and Kingstown.)	8	Yes, in three dispensary districts to a small extent.	No.	Injury is caused by erysipelas and cancer curers. Treatment by Christian Scientists is reported in one dispensary district.
Rathdrum (including Wicklow Urban District).	8	Yes, in three dispensary districts.	No.	The bonesetter is employed and often causes permanent injury to patients. Some people have more confidence in concoctions prepared by quacks than in pharmacopœial drugs.
Rathkeale ...	4	Yes, in two districts.	No.	Bonesetters attend to fractures in some instances. The indiscriminate use of proprietary medicines by the public is reported.
Roscommon	3	No.	—	—
Roscrea ...	5	Yes, in two dispensary districts.	Yes.	Deformities are often the result of the bonesetter's work. Prescribing by chemists is largely on the increase as is also the sale of proprietary medicines. Christian Scientists have developed a practice.
Scariff ...	6	Yes, in two dispensary districts	No	The advice of the midwife is occasionally sought in surgical and medical cases. An increase in the use of proprietary medicines is reported.

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Shillelagh ...	2	Yes.	Yes.	Incorrect treatment is administered as a result of wrong diagnoses, and proper attendance delayed. One patient advanced to a hopeless stage of phthisis before consulting the medical practitioner. Others have developed severe paralysis due to peripheral neuritis as a result of the application of plasters containing arsenic to cancer, and one patient died from arsenical poisoning developed after the application of one of these plasters. Much harm is also caused by bonesetters.
Skibbereen (including Skibbereen UrbanDistrict).	4	Yes, in one district.	—	Prescribing by chemists is increasing with injurious results.
Skull ...	2	Yes.	—	A bonesetter is employed.
Sligo (including Borough of Sligo).	6	Yes, in the UrbanDistrict.	No.	The practice is confined to that of chemists and has no marked ill effects.
Strabane (including Strabane UrbanDistrict).	6	Yes, in two dispensary districts.	Yes.	Persons having cures for sprains, phthisis, erysipelas, ringworm, and cancer are employed, and thus not only prevent patients obtaining medical advice in time but also use improper and injurious substances as remedies. An ointment containing corrosive sublimate was applied to varicose veins and led to mercurial poisoning. Chemists prescribe with injurious results, and grocers prescribe and sell proprietary medicines and even compound drugs on their own prescriptions. Unqualified women engage in midwifery in remote localities.

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Stranorlar...	3	No.	No.	The employment of "handy women" in confinement cases gives much unnecessary trouble.
Strokestown	3	Yes, in one dispensary district.	No.	One man is reported to practise a little at medicine and to sell drugs but the public health is not affected.
Swineford...	5	Yes, in two dispensary districts.	No (diminishing).	Abscesses and ulcers are treated barbarously. Some limbs have been rendered practically useless by the bonesetter.
Thomastown	4	Yes, in two dispensary districts.	No.	Bonesetters and cancer curers injure their patients.
Thurles (including the Urban Districts of Templemore and Thurles).	6	Yes, in one dispensary district.	No.	—
Tipperary (including Tipperary Urban District).	6	Yes, in two dispensary districts.	No.	The unqualified practice causes delay in seeking medical aid. Bonesetters are employed in one dispensary district.
Tobercurry	3	Yes (exists only to a slight extent in one district).	No.	—
Tralee (including Tralee Urban District).	6	Yes, in three dispensary districts.	Yes, in one dispensary district.	The effects are detrimental. Unqualified women engage in midwifery.
Trim (including Trim Urban District).	4	Yes, in two dispensary districts.	No.	A cancer curer applied an ointment to the face of a patient with very injurious effect. Proprietary medicines are sold.

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(1.)	(2.)	(3.)	(4.)	(5.)
Tuam ...	4	Yes, to a small extent in two dispensary districts.	No.	Disastrous results have followed the application of cancer cures. A bonesetter treats slight injuries.
Tullamore (including Tullamore Urban District).	5	Yes, in two dispensary districts.	No.	The delay to the patient in getting treatment and the loss of fees to the medical practitioners. "Cancer cures," that are not successful, are injurious.
Urlingford ..	3	No.	—	—
Waterford (including Waterford County Borough).	7	Yes, in four dispensary districts.	Yes.	The effects of bonesetting vary. Prescribing by chemists and their salesmen is on the increase. When the "American Specialist" pays a fleeting visit to the district he finds a considerable number of people willing to seek advice from him at a high price.
Westport (including Westport UrbanDistrict).	6	Yes, in one dispensary district.	—	Patients buy large quantities of proprietary medicines through the post, and by using such nostrums allow their diseases to run from acute to chronic.
Wexford (including Wexford UrbanDistrict).	6	In one dispensary district to a slight extent.	No.	Cancer curers apply plasters to patients.
Youghal (including Youghal UrbanDistrict).	4	Yes.	No.	A bonesetter inflicts violent torture, and gangrene often follows his tight bandaging of limbs. Chemists prescribe proprietary medicines and their own concoctions for diseases of which they know nothing, and for patients they have never seen. Preparations and proprietary medicines warranted to cure everything are largely sold to the advantage of the manufacturers and advertising agents. There is unnecessary delay in seeking proper medical advice and valuable time is thus lost.

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